

HOME NEWS

Cardinal is saddened by black thugs' violence

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs
Correspondent

Cardinal Hume, whose visit to the Notting Hill trouble spots on Monday night became known only because he was recognized by a reporter, has developed a discreet interest in race relations since last year's carnival also ended in violence. Soon after the trouble in 1976 he visited the district and called in Roman Catholic priests from Notting Hill to discuss the matter.

The culmination of his year's study of Notting Hill was an exuberant Caribbean Mass in Westminster Cathedral last Saturday evening, over which he presided. A black priest from Trinidad, who had flown over for the occasion, celebrated the Mass.

Singing and dancing during the service split over into the cathedral piazza in Victoria Street afterwards, and the event was one of the most remarkable ever to be seen on church premises in Britain.

The cardinal, who insists that he is no expert on race relations and that he is not qualified to give a public lead in the matter, has supported projects in aid of black unemployed youths with his personal funds. He has made many friends among West Indians in London.

Tension that gripped a carnival crowd

Stewart Tandler, in a look back at the Notting Hill carnival, describes how the festivities ended in fighting between black youths and the police for the second year in succession.

All Sunday afternoon groups of black youths strolled up Portobello Road to congregate under the Westway motorway on open ground leading up to Acklam Road. Once there, they stood with no apparent purpose other than to listen to a recording system.

Just after 7 pm the first signs of trouble began when a crowd of some hundreds cascaded down from the open space shouting that the police were after them. They turned eastwards into the side streets towards All Saints Road with no discernible purpose, and slowed down.

But as they ran, two white men were seen to have been attacked. The older man, in his forties, staggered away with his clothes torn. His companion, in his twenties, shouted after the crowd: "Why us? Why us?"

The crowd split into smaller groups and continued to roam. They were followed by senior police officers, but no large police contingent, and as one officer passed he was heard to complain: "There is no effective action we can take." In All Saints Road plate-glass windows at several restaurants had been smashed.

by radio but the officers remained straddling the road. Some people had their pockets picked, but there also seemed to be a racial undercurrent in the attacks. One youth screamed: "I'm going to kill you, whitey", and spat. Youths came over to question reporters about what they were going to write. One of them hit a reporter in the eye. A youth had to be restrained by stewards from attacking other journalists.

Many people stayed in the area, drawn by the excitement and activity. The stewards, including leading members of black radical political groups, pleaded with the youths, dragging out troublemakers when they could find them. Several times, as they rushed the protesting youths through the police line, friends of the youngsters followed.

It was on one such occasion that a fierce argument broke out between stewards and youths, just in front of the police line. The next moment a bottle flew out of the crowd and smashed at the feet of the policemen.

Groups of youths continued to pass the said police line. One inspector told his men: "There are not enough of them to take us on yet." As he and his men watched, a police constable tried to drive up Portobello Road, but got stuck under the motorway. Cars were thrown as it began to back out. This time the officer in charge said: "They are going to turn nasty. The bricks will come this way."

On Monday it was clear that many had come back. The police presence was stronger, with constables now on duty in Portobello Road and a strong contingent on the corners of Portobello Road and Acklam Road. Police coaches were parked all along the streets off Ladbroke Grove.



Police officers at Notting Hill displaying the many items, including an air pistol, a sheath-knife and a hammer, as well as mallets and handbags, found in the streets after the West Indian Carnival.

Just after 8 pm two observers from the West Indian Standing Conference approached a chief superintendent. One said: "The tension is building up. We have been trying for an hour to get the music in Acklam Road turned off so that they will go away."

The police officer told them: "We cannot find any stewards. They have taken off the T-shirts they were wearing to identify themselves or turned them inside out."

At that moment one of the former stewards was passing and the group stopped him. He said it would be wrong to turn off the music because the group listening to it would then join the crowd on the open space. By then the stewards themselves were being attacked.

Cambridge Gardens bottles smashed down and passers-by and journalists huddled behind a row of three telephone boxes. One crowd moved north up Ladbroke Grove, chased by a line of police officers behind their plastic shields. The police were ambushed from behind by another group, who were then repulsed by a fresh group of policemen.

Skirmishes between the police and youths continued up and down the fourth leading from Westway. Abuse was shouted, followed by more bottles. Mr Louis Chase, chairman of the Notting Hill Carnival and Arts Committee, appeared out of a millie to describe how he had been attacked.

Earlier, loudspeakers had been used to tell the crowd to go home if they wanted another carnival next year, but that had little effect.

As the fighting died down people began to make their way home. Many black people told the police that they did not condone the actions of the troublemakers. In Portobello Road a line of police officers stood along the pavement on each side of the road as the burglar alarm rang on a smashed clothing shop.

Leading article, page 13

12 Notting Hill defendants get bail

By Michael Bailly
Transport Correspondent

Twelve men arrested at Notting Hill, London, during the weekend were granted bail totalling £800 at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday, when Mr Roderick Romane, the magistrate, remanded them to various dates.

Bender Applewhite, aged 17, a painter of Fildes, New Zealand, was charged with robbing an unknown person of cash together with others in Ladbroke Grove, Notting Hill, on Monday.

Charged with using threatening behaviour were Fitzgerald Willoughby, aged 18, a machine minder of Hampton Road, Hornsey, and Colin Kawaii, who refused all particulars.

Arvel Ford, aged 18, a storeman of Finsbury Street, Bethnal Green, was charged with using insulting words and having a knife as an offensive weapon. Andrew Fitzpatrick, aged 18, a sales assistant of Kew House, Hackney, was charged with being armed with half a household knife with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to a policeman.

Control on works car parking planned

By Michael Bailly
Transport Correspondent

Thousands of car commuters who park in their companies' premises will be affected by new powers being prepared by the Department of Transport. They will be able to go on using office or factory parks only if their local authority agrees and issues them with a permit, for an appropriate fee.

How much the permits will cost and how many will be allowed for each company and each urban area will be for the local authority to decide. The cost will at least have to cover staff to administer the scheme and issue permits, as well as inspectors to visit premises and ensure compliance.

Control of private commercial parking has been talked about for years but governments have fought shy of it for fear of infringing rights and of administrative complications. But with road improvements being steadily squeezed the recent White Paper on transport policy conceded that additional weapon against urban traffic was now becoming inevitable.

A new consultation paper sent out by the Department of Transport to local authorities and motoring organizations discloses that of two possible methods of control, an annual tax on companies for each parking space, or pre-purchased permits displayed by each vehicle, the Government has chosen the latter.

Hartston leads in London chess contest

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

The British international master, Hartston, is in the lead in the Lloyds Bank National Invitation chess tournament at the Piccadilly Hotel, London, today. He has 44 and one adjourned game against Birnbaum, which looks likely to end in a draw.

Franklin, Nunn and Quinteros all have 37 points and are followed by Birnbaum 35, and one adjourned. Beiko and Webb 33, and Sassan 31 and one adjourned.

In yesterday's seventh round game between Franklin and Hartston the position was level for some time but Franklin seemed to have a slight edge. He was out of the game when Hartston won fairly easily. Neither of the foreign grandmasters, Quinteros and Torre, could do more than draw.

Torre is half a point below Julian Hodgson, aged 14, who won results of round 7. Birnbaum's 35 points are followed by Franklin 33, Nunn 33, Quinteros 33, Beiko 33, Webb 33, and Sassan 31. In yesterday's seventh round game between Franklin and Hartston the position was level for some time but Franklin seemed to have a slight edge. He was out of the game when Hartston won fairly easily. Neither of the foreign grandmasters, Quinteros and Torre, could do more than draw.

Gain in understanding for local blacks

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Scotland Yard sought information on the policing of West Indian carnivals from New York and Trinidad, but in the end its officers accompanied each of the carnival processions. As the participants danced and played their way through Notting Hill the police were moved to mark the progress of the procession.

The police use of radios helped to avoid the mix-up of processions that might have arisen from too unbridled spontaneity. Apart from a couple of officers with each procession, hardly a policeman was to be seen on the routes, in marked contrast with last year.

Most of the crime and violence occurred away from the carnival route, under the Westway motorway. Though the police were present in markedly greater numbers on Monday than the day before that was in keeping with Scotland Yard's intention that "the pattern of events on the streets" would determine the profile of policing.

Officers stood at hand near by but did not go in to tackle obvious thuggery as they might have done under less restrained leadership. It was a riot in the night that they had to contain the trouble, but police policy would not allow them

Organizers of carnival attack council

Continued from page 1

Mr Louis Chase, chairman of the carnival of arts and crafts, said that in mid-afternoon on Monday there had been 390 stewards working and some had been present in Acklam Road to help the other group.

He accused the local council on impeding the success of the carnival. Councillor Michael Cox, chairman of Kensington and Chelsea community relations committee, said the council had attempted to close Acklam Road and had given warning of the danger.

Mr Cox said that the carnival had grown too big to be safe in the streets of Notting Hill and suggested one organisation rather than two. Mr William Whitley, deputy Conservative leader and shadow Home Secretary, yesterday called on the Home Secretary, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner and the organizers to "consult together urgently" to see if alternative arrangements could be found for another carnival. "If not, there will be no alternative to burning it," he said.

Weather forecast and recordings



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Abbey National

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12 Notting Hill defendants get bail

Local blacks

Forecast and recording

Actor's suit over musical

Helicopter force-lands

£15,000 fish loss

English lessons at 87

HOME NEWS

Inflation demand will greet the Prime Minister in Scotland

By Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

The Prime Minister arrives in Scotland today to appeal for restraint. He will be met by equally earnest demand for his own party workers and a unionist in Scotland for a reflation of the economy. The Scottish Council of the Labour movement and the TUC believe that with employment levels approaching an "intolerable" level of 100, the Government must approach the International Labour Fund to negotiate a loan of the British economy. The party official said yesterday much of the constraint placed on the economy based on Britain's letter of aid to the IMF at the time, it was widely believed that could be renegotiated to improve the economy.

His improvement has happened and it is time we eased "the most severe" part of the economy is underuse of manpower. could destroy the fabric of the nation, not to mention the party's vote here.

is given the highest priority in the next session. The new, and the prospect of some easing of the economic clamps to create more jobs, would make the party's job in Scotland much easier.

Highlands development 'is failing to halt decline'

Our Own Correspondent
Edinburgh

The export earnings of such Highland goods as cattle, kelp, sheep, herring, and oil are not reinvested in the region in terms of productive assets or alternative industry, it said.

The overriding consideration is the short-term exploitation of Highland resources for profit. It continues. As there is little or no regional control over capital and decision-making, there is no pressure to diversify the Highland economy. Depopulation, low living standards, limited job opportunities, unemployment and despair still characterize many communities. Separation "threat": The sluggish state of business confidence and investment in Scotland arises from the uncertainty created by the threat of separation, Mr. Edward Taylor, shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, said at Biggar, Strathclyde, yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Despite the bonus of oil jobs, Scotland's unemployment has worsened more sharply than the rest of Britain over the past few months and job vacancies are drying up, Mr. Taylor said. "There is no greater enemy of prosperity than uncertainty."

Expansion of teletext planned

By Kenneth Gosling

More than two thousand and thousand people are able to use the teletext information services provided by the teletext system and computer television's Oracle. Manufacturers expect a 50,000 more sets ready by 1979, with a pending lowering of

figures, and a forecast potential use of teletext information, were at a press conference in London yesterday. The Oracle teletext service is to be up-dated seven days a week between 9.30 am and 10.30 pm, the time that has happened between 9.30 am and 6 pm.

sets capable of receiving teletext transmission should be the homes of viewers by 1979, sets are selling for £750, but in a couple of years the cost of adapting ordinary colour receivers to be able to receive teletext is expected to be less than £150. Companies are expected to be the main initial outlet, and receivers for an extra month.

It was the first in the series there is much interest in the Preliminary reports of the Berlin Radio Show (that Germany may have a ready in a year or so; it is well ahead).

George Cooper, chairman of the Oracle Board of commercial television, said advertising included in the expansion of the service, such as BMW, Mothercare and Boots. He thought paid advertising on which the service could be profitable, began in about two years, with costs will be about £10 a year, and by October costs will amount to £10.

One of the possibilities were suggested by Mr. Cooper. A full service could be provided so that the viewer, watching a general election programme, could update on any news he liked.

Text can be used as an aid to television games programmes. Answers provided at the push of a button, and anyone missed an installment of a television series will be able to call up the story so far.

Cooper said the system provide a national call reaching anyone, anywhere in the country. It is 300 pages, can be used in a book, but for ease of access there are 350 sets.

Law group's proposal for aggrieved clients

By Our Legal Correspondent

A judge should be asked to review cases where a client believes that his solicitor has been negligent in dealing with his affairs, but legal opinion says otherwise.

The suggestion is made by the Young Solicitors' Group of the Law Society in evidence to the Royal Commission on Legal Services. The group represents solicitors under 35 years of age. It refers to public dissatisfaction which results from the fact that a client who believes he has a claim for negligence against a solicitor would not readily accept advice from another lawyer that such a claim could not be substantiated.

In such circumstances, the group proposes, the client ought to be entitled to ask for a private appointment with the local circuit judge. The client and the lawyer who had advised him that he had no claim would be interviewed by the judge, who would give his opinion.

Although that opinion could not be binding, it was to the effect that the client had a prima facie case of negligence, he would, if financially eligible, be granted legal aid to pursue it.

26 hurt on train

Twenty-six people were taken to hospital yesterday, mostly with cuts, after a train had hit the buffers at Cannon Street station, London. No one was seriously hurt.

Scottish crime crisis 2: Prison sometimes an alternative to poverty Stretch in Barlinnie 'worn as badge of honour'

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Living conditions in poverty-stricken parts of Strathclyde are so awful that prison can seem comfortable in comparison, and some of its value as a deterrent.

"You are taken away from the wife and squalling kids, given three meals a day, a bath and a haircut," Sergeant Joseph Black, general secretary of the Scottish Police Federation, said. "I have met men who have never had a bath in their lives, or at least not since the one given them by the midwife."

Puzzling poverty in prison can give them another sign of status to go with a scar from a gang battle or the kudos of a successful punch-up with a chucker-out at a dance hall. "Some people wear as a badge of honour the fact that they have been to Barlinnie prison," Sergeant Black says.

He thinks that suitable work for the community might be a more appropriate penalty. So far the Government is making community service orders available only experimentally in four Scottish regions. Strathclyde is one of them.

Some of the people who will have to administer them express strong feelings. The method the Government has chosen, they say, is unnecessarily tentative and complicated. And because there is no statutory basis so far, courts may be reluctant to use them.

Mr. Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, is seeing what new legislation can be introduced to improve criminal

procedure and treatment of offenders.

The Government is also considering how it can reduce the availability of prison to courts as a penalty for some of the lesser common law offences, such as a breach of the peace, for which many persistent drunken offenders are given a taste of custody.

That raises the question of what could replace imprisonment in such cases, given that no detoxification centres are to be built yet and that so many people who are fined end up in custody for non-payment.

A report of what was said to be Britain's first experimental detoxification unit, based in Edinburgh, showed that during 12 months it saved 47 people an expected 130 court appearances, 87 receptions into prison, and 1,112 days in prison for all offences.

The report, in *Health Bulletin*, suggests that a change from penal to medical management of drunkenness need not be more expensive. But the new approach would require social work support, including the provision of hostels.

Out of 19,674 persons received into custody in 1975 to serve sentences, 6,639 were fine defaulters.

The Scottish Council on Crime says that a fine is used in four cases out of five. Recidivism rates suggest that if the amount to be paid is significant fines are "effective penalties, at least, in comparison with the others available to the criminal courts".

Many received into custody are those remanded there. In 1975 they totalled 17,324, a rise

of 2.9 per cent over the previous year.

They help to burden the prison service at one end of the process. At the other end fewer prisoners considered for parole get it than in England and Wales: in 1976 about a third compared with a half. More light will be thrown on the use of parole by the full results, still to come, of studies done by Professor F. H. McClintock and colleagues at Edinburgh University's School of Criminology and Forensic Studies.

One of the obstacles to the increased use of alternatives is a shortage of social workers where they are most needed. Strathclyde regional social work department already supervises about a thousand more offenders than are contained in the entire Scottish prison system, according to Mr. P. E. Edwards, the region's director of social work. The figures do not include juveniles.

Mr. Edwards responds tartly to criticisms of his staff. He is on record as saying: "What is... very difficult to take is the position adopted by the judiciary, the carping criticism of the High Court judges of the social workers who have manfully been struggling with this enormous task of delivering social work services against a manpower situation which, compared with the rest of the United Kingdom, is staggeringly inadequate."

He says that for every 11 social workers in Strathclyde, for example, there are 27 social workers or probation officers in Liverpool.

As part of the drive, now gathering momentum, to tackle urban decay, poverty and misery in Strathclyde, the establishment of basic-grade social workers is to be trebled over the next three years.

Mr. Edwards said: "Notwithstanding the fact that national governments have been exercising ideas about positive discrimination in various parts of the United Kingdom, there has been a failure of those policies. What makes it exciting here is that the council is pursuing it."

Positive discrimination is the aim of a plan launched a year ago by Mr. Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, for the comprehensive rehabilitation of part of the city. It includes the building of new homes, modernization of present ones, new roads, industrial and commercial development, supporting social and educational services, and adequate open space for recreation.

The Glasgow eastern area renewal scheme, estimated to cost £120m, includes 40 advance factory units.

The aim is to build up community life with public involvement in decisions, drawing on lessons learnt elsewhere of how alienation can lead to vandalism and crime.

Pessimists say nothing can stop urban decline once it has reached the level of parts of Glasgow. Others are bickering about details.

But the new-found enthusiasm of people who have been waiting a lifetime for an opportunity to tackle deep-seated ills may yet surprise the world.

Paedophilia advocate given extra leave

Mr. Thomas O'Carroll, chairman of Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE), which seeks to legalize adult sexual relations with children, has taken two weeks' extended holiday from his post at the Open University.

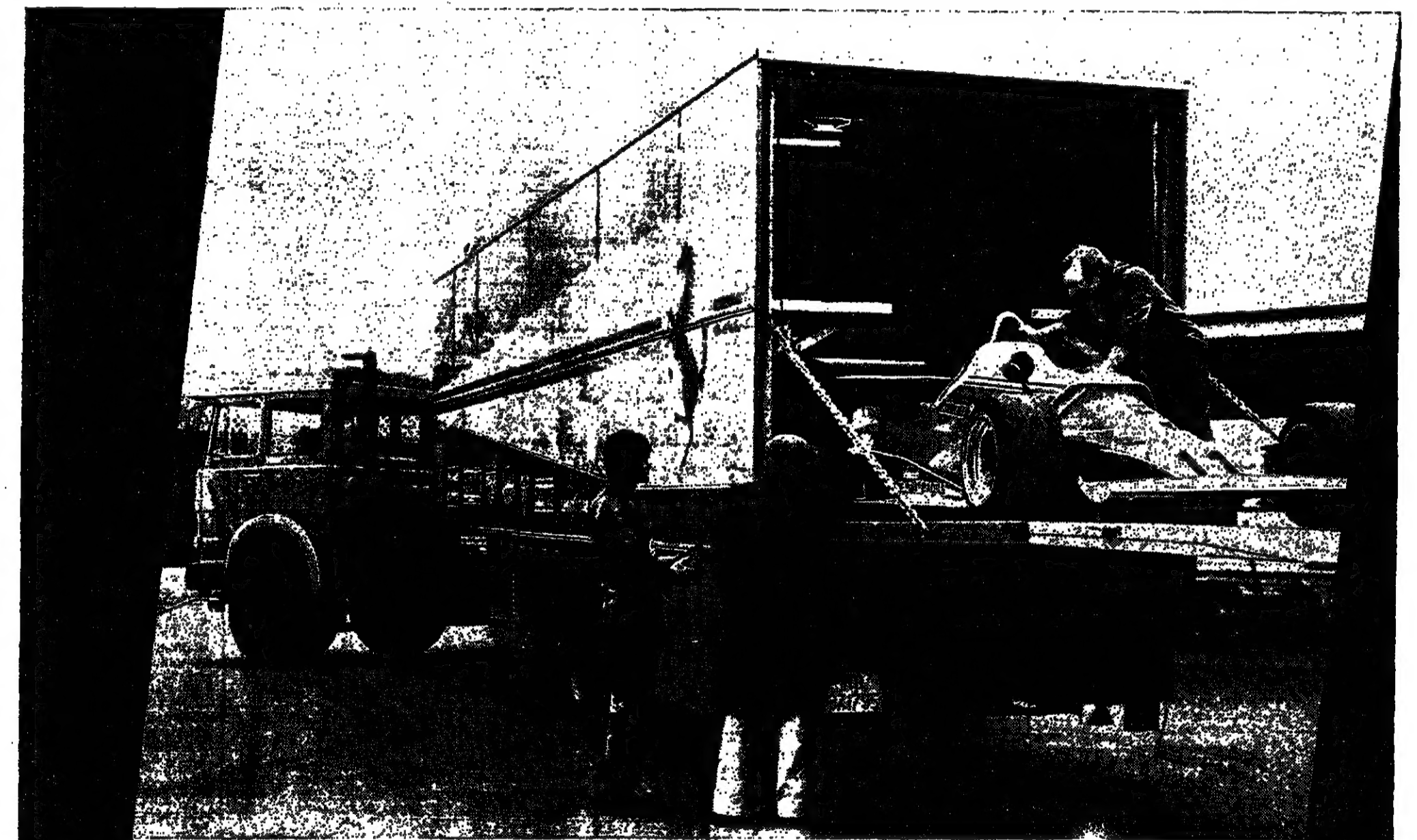
Mr. O'Carroll, who is 32, was to have resumed his work as press officer yesterday. The decision to take leave came after talks last weekend with Mr. John Greenall, director of the university's information services.

The group plans a seminar at an undisclosed venue on Thursday to discuss its aims. An earlier conference was banned from the Shaftesbury Hotel, London, when the group's purpose was discovered.

"The Open University wishes to make clear that it disassociates itself entirely from PIE and its objectives," Mr. Greenall said. "What a person did in his own time was not the business of the university."

In a statement, the university said it discussed the recent reports about the group with Mr. O'Carroll during the weekend. It was made clear to him that although the university recognized the right of its staff to express private views in public it did not support his views on paedophilia and must not be associated with them.

Mr. O'Carroll said he regretted that the university's name had been brought into the issue and that the publicity had embarrassed its members who objected to his views, the statement said.



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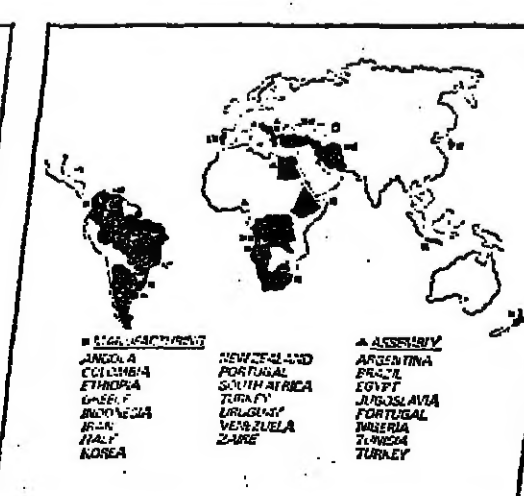
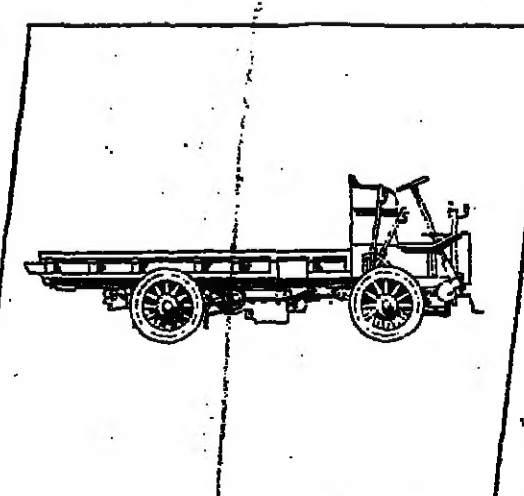
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HOME NEWS

Ministry reviews way secret papers are prepared for release

By Peter Hennessy

The Ministry of Defence has begun a review of the way classified papers are written, filed, preserved or "weeded", and prepared for eventual public release under the 30-year rule established by the Public Record Act, 1967.

The investigation, ordered by Sir Frank Cooper, permanent secretary to the ministry, reflects concern in Whitehall and among historians that valuable material may have been destroyed during "weeding". Under rules laid down by the Grigg committee in 1954, files are "weeded" once they cease to be in current use and again after 25 years, before they are burnt or sent to the Public Record Office.

The Ministry of Defence is the largest creator of paper in Whitehall. It needs more than a hundred miles of shelving for the documents being held to await possible release. About thirty "weeder" sift the material and decide what should be retained and what destroyed. They work in the kitchens of a former hotel in Northumberland Avenue, near the ministry's headquarters.

To discover what is happening to paper between the moment of compilation and the point of destruction or disclosure, sample tests are being undertaken by a review team. They have paid special attention to the flow of documents in ministerial private offices.

The inquiry will reopen the question of who should be responsible for "weeding" and the kind of people recruited as "weeder". Ministry of Defence "weeder" are mainly retired civil servants of senior executive officer rank with long experience of line management. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office recruits former ambassadors. No government department employs trained archivists for the task.

"Weeding" is now the responsibility of the ministry's Office Services (Administration and Records) Branch, an amorphous empire covering data processing, messengers and a host of other activities

as well as departmental record work. The review team will consider several possible arrangements.

The army, naval and air historical branches of the ministry contain skilled archivists and historians among their staff. They will probably become more involved in deciding what should be preserved and how safeguards can be built into the system.

The Air Historical Branch, under Wing Commander E. B. (Teddy) Haslam, has a high reputation among historians and its direct participation would greatly reassure the profession.

An example of its present work is the preparation of an official history of air mobility. It will use details from an unpublished assessment of the Berlin air lift of 1948-49 compiled in 1950 by Air Marshal Sir Thomas Williams, who commanded the RAF operation.

The ministry may appoint an outside moderator to inspect its new procedures and advise on improvements. A central coordinating body may also be set up to ensure consistent and harmonious treatment, especially important as the three services each had its own ministry until 1964.

The review team will also examine the effects of changing documentary techniques involved in policy work. Life was relatively simple until the mid-1960s, when the two-sided registered policy file, with minutes on the left and enclosures on the right, ceased to be the standard mechanism. It provided a chronological, comprehensive record for future generations.

The advent of the photocopying machine and a wider, more diffuse pattern for circulating paper greatly hindered the work of the archivist.

The team's work should be completed by the end of September. Its report will be referred to Sir Frank Cooper and Mr Ewen Broadbent, Deputy Secretary (Civilian Management) for decisions on its recommendations.

FOREIGN LETTER

(a) Total Foreign Office by Country

Country	1976	1977
East	1,421,239	1,400,000
West	200,000	240,713
Subtotal	1,621,239	1,640,713
Subtotal	61,000	64,225
Subtotal	27,283	27,283
Total	1,689,522	1,732,221

Total Qualified Foreign Office Staff: 2,255,500

(b) Highest Daily British Foreign Office

2,214.5 - 24 July 1976

(c) Highest Daily R.A.F. Foreign Office

1,335.6 - 17th August 1976

(d) Highest Daily British Civil Foreign Office

1,000.6 - 22nd May 1976

National Front interview is welcomed

By Ian Bradley

The interview in *The Times* yesterday with Mr John Tyndall, chairman of the National Front, was welcomed by Mr William Whitelaw, Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party.

Mr Whitelaw said: "I believe it was right for *The Times* to give Mr Tyndall the chance to state his views. It removes one of the main reasons for the National Front. What he said did not make me any more sympathetic to the views of his organization."

Mr Paul Foot, of the Socialist Workers' Party, said the interview "simply confirms anybody's view that this is classic fascism in a straightforward Nazi mould". He added that the interview established that the National Front and the Socialist Workers' Party were at opposite ends of the political scale; not at the same end, as Mrs Thatcher asserted last weekend.

The Times will shortly be publishing an extended interview with Mr Duncan Hallas, chairman of the Socialist Workers' Party.

Alderney to plan restrictions on immigrants

From Our Correspondent Alderney

Recommendations that preliminary inquiries should be made into the establishment of an Alderney postal service and that proposals should be drawn up for limiting new immigration to people likely to be of service or able to enrich the community were approved by the Alderney States yesterday.

It was also agreed to set up a work-gang party to attract financial, commercial and light industry to the island.

Mr John Winckworth, chairman of the finance committee, said Alderney had been drifting for too many years without an economic policy. It was not the intention to break away completely from Guernsey, but it was felt that the island should assume more responsibility for its public services.

It was not intended to limit immigration only to those with vast incomes, but they did want to stop people coming to the island who were a liability

New Opel may mean Vauxhall version

By John Blunsden

A new range of Opel Rekord cars, comprising two-door and four-door saloons in three levels of trim and equipment, and three-door and five-door estate cars with two levels of equipment is announced today.

Initially to be made in the Adam Opel AG factory in Rüsselsheim, West Germany, the Rekord range will be imported into the United Kingdom with right-hand steering early next year. If General Motors continues its policy of model integration within the Opel and Vauxhall ranges (already seen in the Kadett/Chevelle and Manta/Cavalier models) a Vauxhall version of the Rekord, as a replacement for the Victor series, would seem to be a logical development.

A new wedge-shaped body incorporates a longer and more steeply sloping bonnet, an elongated roof line and a shorter but higher rear end.

The new Rekord has a four-cylinder engine has been introduced for the new Rekord: a



The four-door saloon in the new range of Opel Rekord cars.

90bhp economy version to run on regular grade fuel, a 100bhp version for use with 98 octane fuel, and a fuel-injected 110bhp variant using Bosch L-Jetronic equipment, giving the saloon a top speed of more than 110mph and a 0-60mph acceleration time of 12 seconds.

Although external dimensions are similar to those of the previous Rekord models, leg and shoulder room has been im-

proved, the saloon has a fifth more luggage space and the load area of the estate car has been increased by a third.

The Rekord will continue to be offered with a 2.1 litre diesel engine, and the well known 1.7 litre and 1.9 litre petrol engines will also be available for economy-minded motorists.

Mr Brown said he was not aware of any plans to introduce the new Rekord until the cars are available next year.

Miners seek retirement of sponsored MPs at 65

From Our Northern Industrial Correspondent Barnsley

The Yorkshire area council of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday passed a resolution calling for the retirement of 65 of all MPs sponsored by mining unions in the Yorkshire area in London tomorrow.

It demands withdrawal of union sponsorship from MPs who refuse to retire at that age.

Three Labour MPs in the Yorkshire area who might be affected are Mr Edwin Wainwright, Deans Valley, born August, 1908; Mr Richard Kelley, Don Valley (July, 1904) and Mr Albert Roberts, Northampton (May, 1908).

The union sponsorship for candidates was a substantial assistance with election expenses and parliamentary expenses as well as securing a substantial vote of miners.

In the past, mining nomination in the coalfield areas was almost a guarantee of success but in recent years, with the considerable drop in manpower at pits, NUM representation of constituency Labour parties who choose the candidate has

fallen considerably, as has the proportion of the electorate who are miners.

Another resolution calls on full-time NUM officers to resign on becoming directors of any other commercial business interests outside the NUM or the Labour movement.

The resolution arose out of reports that Mr Joseph Gormley, the union's national president, had accepted a position with a shipping subsidiary of an oil company.

Mr Arthur Scargill, Yorkshire area president, said that if a man was appointed to a local tribunal or received payment for work as a local councillor that would not be affected. Commercial business interests might directly or indirectly operate against the NUM. Union officials should be solely concerned with the union and its associated interests.

Mr Gormley replied: "I am master of my own destiny in my own time" (the Press Association reports). He said he was not the only NUM official with such a job. "I believe the president of the Yorkshire area council, Mr Scargill himself has held directorships of outside bodies."

Man lost job after keeping quiet about jail sentence

From Our Correspondent Shrewsbury

Mr Gerald Brown lost his £4,850-a-year job as a branch manager of a caravan company when his employers confronted him with rumours they had heard of his serving a nine-month prison term. He had kept quiet about the sentence when he applied for the job.

Mr Brown, aged 56, of Tattenhall, Cheshire, told an industrial tribunal at Shrewsbury: "I had applied for 300 jobs since I was discharged from prison and I deliberately sticking my neck out." The tribunal dismissed his claim of unfair dismissal.

He refused a demotion to salesman when the truth about his past came out, and was then dismissed with a month's pay in lieu of notice by W.D. Harrington and Co. of Delamere, Cheshire.

Mr Brown said he and the chairman of a Manchester garage group, to whom he was personal assistant, was convicted of conspiring to pervert the course of justice.

What I did was out of loyalty to the chairman of that company and I did not see why it should prejudice my whole future career. I said: 'It was not as if I was an embezzler applying for a job in a bank.'"

Mr Paul Holloway, Harrington's managing director, said Mr Brown's application did not disclose the fact that he had a criminal record. "He was not completely honest in his application, and in view of this I did not consider him a suitable person to have charge of one of our branches," he said. He agreed that an inspection of the branch's records gave him no reason to doubt Mr Brown's honesty or integrity.

Mr Anthony Gordon, chairman of the tribunal, said: "He did not come clean and give the company the chance of deciding for themselves whether to accept him, notwithstanding this unfortunate blot on what otherwise appears to have been an honourable and successful career." The company was justified in feeling it could not overlook the matter.

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WEST EUROPE

Austerity economy continues for French

From Ian Murray Paris, Aug 30

Petrol and tobacco prices are to go up in the French budget for 1978, which is to be presented on September 7. These are the main sources of increased revenue in a firm budget that will keep the spirit of the "Barre plan" to save the economy.

Final details of the budget were discussed at an inner Cabinet meeting yesterday and M Barre, the Prime Minister, has clearly decided that, elections notwithstanding, he will hold fast to the austerity plan he drew up a year ago. There is to be no inflation of the economy.

The official statement after yesterday's meeting said the budget's three aims were to protect the franc, to reestablish the economy, and to support industry. The first two could have been written a year ago but the third shows that the Government is beginning to cause industrial stagnation.

The obvious symptom of the disease is high unemployment and tomorrow there is to be a special Cabinet meeting to discuss this problem and measures to control it. The signs are that tough measures will be taken to eliminate the "false unemployed"—those who find it more rewarding to stay unemployed than to work.

More worrying, however, is the constant shrinking of the number of jobs on offer, a clear sign that industry is not trying to expand, probably because of fears about what may happen if the Union of the Left comes to power in next year's elections.

M Barre has said that he will not allow the elections to impair his economic judgment. The decision to put up the price of petrol next year by about 6 per cent to £1.32 a gallon and to raise an extra £58.8m from increased road fund licences and tobacco tax is scarcely playing to the election.

At the same time the decision to present a budget that will run into the red must largely stem from the desire not to stifle industry further by the higher taxes necessary to meet planned needs in 1978.

M Barre is also aware of the growing clamour from the unions, middle management and, indeed, from M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, for an end to tight wage restraint.

Figures just released by the Ministry of Labour show that the purchasing power of hourly paid workers has not increased at all in the past year, despite an increase of 10.6 per cent in the cost of living for the period. The July price index having risen by 0.5 per cent, the pressure is on for higher pay in the next round of negotiations, which are about to start.

The middle-management class (cadres) are meanwhile trying to make their voice heard. M Yves Chaperon, the president of the confederation Generale des Cadres, has attacked a proposal by M Edmond Maire, the socialist trade union leader, to limit to 100 the number of hours a week a cadre can work. M Maire is due to meet M Georges Seguy, the Communist trade union leader, tomorrow to discuss tactics to rebuff the two big unions in the year ahead.



Skateboards at war: a recruit of Switzerland's trend-setting army about to fire a flamethrower in an exercise designed to improve his balance.

Clashes as Lisbon tries to hand back land

From Jose Shorcliff Lisbon, Aug 30

Thirty-one people are reported to have been injured in clashes between the police and agricultural workers in Evora, in the Alentejo province, south of Lisbon.

The incidents began late yesterday afternoon when a section of the Communist Party's "July 22" was being returned to its original owners on the order of the Agriculture Ministry.

The farm workers refused to allow tractors and an escort of Republican Guards to approach the area by leaving across the road to blockade their passage. In the ensuing clashes 15 people were injured, and a youth was taken to hospital with brain damage.

Later, a hostile crowd of about 600 farm workers and sympathisers gathered outside the Republican Guard headquarters in Evora, and were dispersed by a detachment of the special "intervention squad" of the riot police, who were rushed up by car from Lisbon.

The clashes brought the total of injured to 31. Two arrests were made.

This is the first outburst of serious violence since Senhor Antonio Barreto, the Minister of Agriculture, promised that the new land reform law would be put into effect by all legal means at the Government's disposal. The law was passed last month after a prolonged and bitter debate in the National Assembly.

The Socialists and Social Democrats voted in its favour, while the Communists and the Christian Democrats voted against it. The Communists feared that their hold over the district would be affected by the new reform law.

One of the clauses of the Bill which is most contested by the extreme left is the one which enlarges the areas reserved for medium and small farmers, whose land comes within the Government's scheme to put right the injustices of the 1976 land nationalisation. Before the Bill was passed by Parliament, Dr Alvaro Cunhal, the Communist Party's general secretary, stated that its implementation would be accompanied by "extreme difficulties".

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Test case for restraining power of police in Spain

Madrid, Aug 30.—Señor Rodolfo Martín Villa, the Spanish Interior Minister, today promised a full investigation into allegations of police mistreatment of a Socialist deputy, which have caused uproar in Parliament.

He held talks with the president of the Cortes (Parliament), Señor Antonio Hernandez Gil, while indignant Socialist deputies called for his resignation.

The incident is seen as a test case for the Government's efforts to reform the police force, which long enjoyed a free hand during the 40-year Franco dictatorship.

Señor Jaime Blanco, the Socialist deputy involved, said he was beaten and insulted by riot police when he tried to stop them from hitting a youth after a weekend demonstration

In the northern town of Santander. He said the police called him a pimp and a son of a whore when he identified himself as a member of Parliament.

The police version was that Señor Blanco had been with a group of demonstrators who insulted the police. He was seized, taken to police headquarters and taken to a hospital.

Señor Martín Villa told reporters he had sent the Director-General of Security to Santander to investigate. It was, he said, his duty to maintain public order. But if it was proved that the police had committed abuses the Government would take disciplinary action.

In an editorial the liberal daily El País said that one of the Interior Minister's duties was to ensure that the police did not abuse their power. He had admitted he had his hand full just trying to control the police.

Opinion poll jolt for Bonn coalition

From Greta Spitzer Bonn, Aug 30

Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor today presided at the first meeting of the coalition of Social Democrats and Free Democrats after the holiday break. If there were an election now, the SPD would be 49.5 per cent and the FDP 8 per cent.

More significant, however, was the reaction to a western opinion poll by Professor Rudolf Wildemann, the business magazine *Capital* said that the coalition would survive by a narrow margin: 50.9 per cent, of which 42.1 per cent was for the Social Democrats (SPD) and 8.8 per cent for the Free Democrats (FDP).

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Communists prepare for hard autumn in Italy

By Peter Nichols
Aug 30
The Italian Communists have intended to enlighten a turbulent rank and file about the nature of the difficult task facing the party this autumn.

At 20 regional secretaries' meetings, the party's 100 provincial secretaries are to be briefed on the party's strategy for the autumn. The party's strategy is to be based on the party's strategy for the autumn.

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Mr Smith will put his internal settlement proposals to Dr Owen

From Michael Knipe
Salisbury, Aug 30
Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, indicated tonight that he intends to put counter-proposals regarding an internal settlement when the Anglo-American negotiators arrive here on Thursday.

Dr Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, and Mr Andrew Young, the United States Representative at the United Nations, will be bringing the detailed Anglo-American proposals for a constitutional settlement in Rhodesia.

Speaking on radio and television on the eve of the country's general election, the Rhodesian Leader said he hoped Dr Owen was not arriving with a result of the discussion.

Mr Smith said that when he met Dr Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, in Pretoria last year, three things were agreed: the need for the retention of white confidence, skills and expertise in Rhodesia, the need for the retention of the existing security forces for the maintenance of law and order, and that Rhodesia should remain firmly in the Western camp.

Dr Owen had initially subscribed to these fundamental principles but, regrettably, Mr Smith said, subsequent developments had led to a breakdown in the British and American governments were paying only lip-service to them.

Last month, he said, he made it clear to Dr Owen that "some features" of the Anglo-American proposals were "quite unacceptable because they would bring chaos to our country".

He had yet to learn whether the "very strong representations" Rhodesia made had had any effect on the proposals, but he hoped that Mr Owen was not coming with his mind made up.

The Rhodesian leader told his audience that he would be misleading them if he were to express any undue optimism about Dr Owen's visit, as he had already seen clearly the influence exerted on the British Foreign Secretary by the so-called African front-line states.

Now, he asked, could they be expected to support a democratic solution in Rhodesia "which would show up, by contrast, the disaster of their one-party dictatorships?"

Nothing would please them more than to see Rhodesia's security forces dismantled. Both President Michael of Mozambique and President Nyerere of Tanzania had stated publicly, he asserted, that they regarded the dismantling of the security forces as more important than the content of the constitution.

Mr Smith went on to say that during a meeting with him, the two envoys had elaborated on the proposals which they had already outlined to the front-line states in Lusaka last week.

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Rhodesia was being used as a football in a massive power struggle between the West and the communists. "We find the present British and American administrations united in their apparent determination to encompass our downfall."

Britain and America's "lack of concern for the effects of terrorism on our black people" seemed to show that they had "no real and genuine interest in the welfare of Rhodesia, whether they be black or white", Mr Smith claimed.

Their overriding aim was to avoid a confrontation with the Soviet Union and the fact that the Patriotic Front were the protégés of the Russians accounted for the appeasement of this organization.

It was because of the "heavily external influences" that his Government had turned seriously to the practical alternative of an internal solution between the Government and moderate black leaders.

Mr Smith reminded his listeners that he had had what he described as "realistic and pragmatic talks" with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, on Saturday and said it was important to ensure that there was mutual understanding to enable "the safeguarding of the Christian civilization which has been built up in southern Africa".

Rhodesia's tiny and predominantly white electorate—1.5 per cent of the population—goes to the polls tomorrow, with Mr Smith's Rhodesian Front seemingly assured of a massive victory, in spite of the vagueness and seeming inconsistencies of its election platform.

During the election campaign Mr Smith had made political capital by casting doubts on the viability of the Anglo-American proposals.

He has contended that his own internal settlement plan has far greater chance of success, but has given no details. He intends, he says, to form a "broad-based" Government which will include African leaders who have renounced terrorism.

But it would be indiscreet and would jeopardize the plan, he says, if he were to name the Africans in question. He reassured whites by saying that even these Africans can be dismissed from the Government if they step out of line.

This unspecified broad-based Government would draw up a new constitution, which would involve one-man-one-vote. The fact that the only two African leaders who could give any viability to the "broad-based" Government—Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole—will accept nothing less than immediate majority rule on an adult franchise and expect the guerrilla forces to be integrated with the security forces appears in no way to have discredited Mr Smith's plan of action in the eyes of most whites.

Dr Owen and Mr Young are expected to leave Salisbury on Thursday to meet Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, on Thursday after the Rhodesian general election.

Dr Owen said: "The moment is coming when we will say something about the proposals, when we will publish them. That is probably going to be Thursday."

In reply to a reporter's suggestion that the proposals had already been rejected by the front-line African states, Dr Owen said: "That is news to me."



Briefing the Kremlin: Mr Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, continued his talks in Moscow yesterday with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, calling them a great success. Mr Arafat told Tass that the Soviet Union, "a loyal and tested friend" of the Arabs, must be included in a Middle East settlement and he accused the United States of trying to squeeze Moscow out of peace negotiations. "The Middle East problem can be settled firmly and forever only with the participation of the Soviet Union", he said. There was speculation that Mr Arafat might fly to the Black Sea to meet President Brezhnev.—UPI.

Begin rebuff for Assad PLO plan

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Aug 30
Mr Begin, the Israeli Minister, dismissed as "completely unacceptable" a suggestion by President Assad of Syria that an Arab League team should represent the Palestinians in Middle East peace talks to get round Israel's objection to the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr Begin, who was interviewed at Ben Gurion airport on his return from Romania, said: "Peace treaties can be signed only between sovereign states. You cannot sign a peace treaty with the Arab League. It is not a state institution."

He reaffirmed Israel's refusal to deal with the PLO in any circumstances. He noted that the PLO central council meeting in Damascus had reiterated the principles in the organization's covenant calling for the destruction of Israel.

Israel stood by its decision to invoke its right as an original participant in the Geneva peace conference to veto invitations to the PLO as an organization or under an Arab League banner. If the Arab states continued to block the conference by refusing to attend without the PLO, the United States could promote close proximity talks or bilateral meetings between Israel and each Arab neighbour.

Asked to comment on Syrian threats of war if the peace efforts failed, Mr Begin said that he had told President Ceausescu of Romania that Israel would never initiate another war.

He denied meeting any Soviet personality during his visit to Romania. Rumours were rife after he disappeared from reporters' view for five hours on Sunday afternoon and evening, but Mr Begin insisted that he had taken a nap.

He had never requested to meet any Russians. Israel's assumption that President Ceausescu will report to the Soviet leadership on his meetings with Mr Begin. Opinion is divided here over whether Romania's decision to retain its embassy in Israel was an act of defiance of the Soviet Union or a service requested by the Russians to keep a channel open.

Black community leaders believe that it was black votes which tipped the scales for President Carter in last year's presidential election. They are, therefore, especially bitter that he has not begun to repay what they regard as a campaign debt.

The Rev Jesse Jackson, who was once an aide to Dr Martin Luther King, pointed out that the meeting was held on the fourteenth anniversary of the march on Washington which Dr King led. On that march, Dr King spoke of his dream for the nation, but "14 years later, the challenge is to fulfil that dream with economic parity and political development."

Mr Jackson said that black people wanted to see from the Administration positive proposals for tackling unemployment, rebuilding the decaying cities and reforming the welfare programme.

Fifteen leaders of black organizations met in New York yesterday to express bitter dissatisfaction at the lack of initiatives by the Carter Administration on matters concerning blacks. The meeting issued a statement criticizing the "callous neglect of blacks, the poor and American cities."

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He had never requested to meet any Russians. Israel's assumption that President Ceausescu will report to the Soviet leadership on his meetings with Mr Begin. Opinion is divided here over whether Romania's decision to retain its embassy in Israel was an act of defiance of the Soviet Union or a service requested by the Russians to keep a channel open.

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US second thoughts on Harrier jets deal

From David Cross
Washington, Aug 30
Mr Harold Brown, the Defence Secretary, is reported to be having second thoughts about the US plan to buy up to 350 more British-designed Harrier jump jets, worth some \$1,500m (about £822m).

Although the Defence Department would neither confirm nor deny the review officially, well-informed sources say that Mr Brown has rejected a request from the Marine Corps to allocate funds from next year's defence budget to finance the development of an improved model of the jump jet for the 1980s.

However, the sources emphasized that a final decision on whether to abandon the deal or go ahead with it was still a long way off.

The jump jet has come under strong criticism from some sectors of the Washington defence establishment, mainly because of its high crash record. Nearly a quarter of the 110 or so of the present AV-8A version purchased by the Marine Corps have crashed, six of them this year. Nine pilots have died.

Nevertheless, the Marine Corps itself apparently believes that the casualty record is not unexceptional for an aircraft of its type and feels that the Harrier's operational advantages are so great they outweigh the disadvantages.

The Marines submitted to Mr Brown a request for \$150m next year to carry out research and buy four prototypes of an improved AV-8B model as a first step to the purchase of 350 aircraft in the 1980s.

Mr Brown's tentative rejection of the funds will probably appear in the draft defence budget which will go to the White House before the end of the year. The whole defence budget would then be reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget before its submission to President Carter.

Our Defence Correspondent writes: The American move has surprised the RAF, which has been equipped with the Harrier since 1968.

This is despite the fact that the RAF has also suffered 24 "write-offs" and nine pilots killed out of 105 during the last nine years. A further 24 aircraft have had to be ordered from the Hawker Siddeley division of British Aerospace, to plug the gaps in the RAF front line.

Political conflicts enter conference on deserts

Nairobi, Aug 30.—The United Nations conference on deserts moved from ecology to politics today as the Organization of African Unity (OAU) accused Israel of engaging in anti-Islamic propaganda.

Mr Naureddine Djoudi of Algeria, the OAU's assistant secretary-general, referred to an Israeli conference paper entitled "The Negro: A Desert Reclaimed", which said that "after the Muslim conquest of 640 AD, there began a rapid decline in agriculture and a rapid from a few hundred nomadic Beduin, no settlement existed in this area (the Negev)".

He said the paper also used the "new name" (Judea) for the West Bank of the Jordan.

The Israeli delegation later said that no boundary changes or maligning of people was intended.

Meanwhile, Egypt asked that the United Nations "world map of desertification" be withdrawn. Sources said there were probably political objections to the way some borders were drawn.

The map, which has been praised by scientists here, states that its boundaries do not express a United Nations opinion on the status of any area.

In the plenary session, the OAU and Chinese spokesmen said colonialism and neo-colonialism were mainly responsible for abuses causing the spread of deserts.—Reuters.



COMPANIES ACT 1976

An urgent reminder to all Company Secretaries

It is most important that before 1 October 1977, you notify the Registrar of Companies of your accounting reference date under Section 2 (1) of the Companies Act 1976. (Or before the end of six months starting with your date of incorporation whichever is the later).

Every registered company should now have received a copy of the prescribed form (Form 2) for completion and return. If it has been mislaid, write or telephone for another.

REMEMBER...

The new Act requires accounts to be prepared and copies to be laid before the company and delivered to the Registrar within clearly defined time limits, governed by the company's accounting reference date, and these obligations come into operation on 1 October. If a company does not notify the Registrar of the accounting reference date it wishes to use, that date will automatically be deemed to be 31 March.

From 1 October, companies will be required by Section 12 of the Act to keep accounting records sufficient to show and explain their transactions, to disclose their financial position at any time and to enable the directors to prepare accounts in compliance with the Companies Acts. These records must be preserved for at least three years by private companies or six years by public companies.

ENGLAND & WALES
The Registrar of Companies,
Companies Registration Office,
Crown Way, Mandy, Cardiff CF4 3UZ.
Tel: Cardiff (0222) 388588
Ext. 2476 or 2479.

SCOTLAND
The Registrar of Companies,
Exchequer Office, 102 George Street,
Edinburgh EH2 3DJ. Tel: 031-225 5774.

Clashes as Lik to hand back

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Anglo-American envoys arrive in Nairobi

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Aug 30
Dr Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, and Mr Andrew Young, the United States Representative at the United Nations, arrived here tonight after stopping in Dar es Salaam to meet President Nyerere of Tanzania, one of the African front-line states. They had earlier visited South Africa to discuss the new Anglo-American proposals on Rhodesia with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister.

President Nyerere said that during a meeting with him, the two envoys had elaborated on the proposals which they had already outlined to the front-line states in Lusaka last week.

From Kenya they will go to Salisbury to meet Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, on Thursday after the Rhodesian general election.

Dr Owen said: "The moment is coming when we will say something about the proposals, when we will publish them. That is probably going to be Thursday."

In reply to a reporter's suggestion that the proposals had already been rejected by the front-line African states, Dr Owen said: "That is news to me."

Dr Owen and Mr Young are expected to leave Salisbury on Thursday to meet Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, on Thursday after the Rhodesian general election.

Dr Owen said: "The moment is coming when we will say something about the proposals, when we will publish them. That is probably going to be Thursday."

Kenya condemns Somali offensive

Nairobi, Aug 30.—For the first time Kenya has publicly condemned the seizure of much of the Ethiopian province of Ogaden by Somali insurgents.

Kenya's new Ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr F. K. Nganatha, has said in Addis Ababa: "Kenya condemns unreservedly the present aggression against Ethiopia."

Nairobi and Addis Ababa have a defence agreement though Kenya has not actively intervened in the war.

Somalia historically not only claims Ethiopia's Ogaden desert but also parts of northern Kenya as belonging to a "greater Somalia". Nairobi is understood to be deeply concerned that Somalia could eventually launch a military attack on its northern frontiers if the Somali insurgents succeeded in capturing and holding the Ogaden.

Guerrillas supported by Somalia now claim to control the whole of Ethiopia's Bale province apart from two towns, according to the Somali news agency, Sonna.

As in the Ogaden to the east, the inhabitants of Bale are mainly related ethnically to the Somalis.

Quoting a communiqué of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF), the agency said guerrillas had killed 83 Ethiopian soldiers in fierce fighting near the town of Gindir, about 150 miles south-east of Addis Ababa. It said the Ethiopian survivors had fled to Gindir, which it described as one of only two towns in Bale province still under Ethiopian control. Both were under siege.

16 French held in Kabul

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Aug 30
French diplomats in Afghanistan are trying to free 16 young men held by police in the Sina Hotel at Kabul after one of the party was found murdered in the Valley of the Buddhas.

The murdered girl, Mlle Dominique Cusin, had been chosen to be in charge of the group on an excursion to the valley and was looking after their money, amounting to about £290. She was found strangled in the valley, 30 miles north-west of Kabul, on Tuesday of last week. She had failed to make a rendezvous and a search party found her body in an isolated spot at the foot of the cliffs along the valley side.

The cliffs, with their giant Buddhas carved into the rock face, were a highlight of the month-long trip organized by the company, Nouvelle Frontières.

The Afghan authorities are holding the 16 remaining members of the party because they believe a foreigner was responsible for the crime. Afghan murderers, they have told the French authorities, do not strangle their victims but cut their throats.

Yesterday a senior Somali official was quoted by a Kuwaiti newspaper as saying Moscow had begun cutting back arms deliveries to Somalia at the outbreak of the Ogaden fighting.—UPI and Reuters.

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OVERSEAS

President Tito given unexpectedly warm welcome in Peking despite his prior visit to Moscow

From David Bonavia
Hongkong, Aug 30

President Tito of Yugoslavia arrived in Peking today in a welcome which, according to reports, has been warmer than in recent years only by those granted to the leaders of "fraternal liberation movements" in Indo-China.

The Yugoslav leader, who has just been visiting North Korea and the Soviet Union, was warmly greeted by Chinese leaders Hua Guofeng and other dignitaries. The exuberance of the welcome comes as a surprise in view of President Tito's prior visit to Moscow.

His presence in Peking marks the culmination of more than two decades of changing relations between Yugoslavia and China. In the early 1950s "revisionist" Tito was used as Peking's whipping boy in the ideological dispute with Moscow. Later, however, China came to support Yugoslavia's struggle for national independence against the "social imperialist superpower", regardless of its internal policies.

In the 1950s and 1960s, China was also active in the Third World movement, of which Yugoslavia was a pioneer. However, the theory of "three worlds" pronounced by the late Mao Tse-tung and recently upheld by Chairman Hua, is different from the Yugoslav idea, because it regards the developed countries, other than Russia and the United States, as the "second world", and would presumably put Yugoslavia in this category.

Marshal Tito's visit comes only a few weeks after a decisive ideological break between China and its old ally, Albania. A dispute over the three worlds' concept has been used as the pretext for the cooling off of a relationship which had become progressively less useful to China since its improvement of relations with the United States and Western Europe.

It was Albania's fear and hatred of Yugoslavia which originally drove it into the Chinese ideological camp. But it

seems that, in the process, Mr. Ever Flozha, the Albanian prime minister, has become personally committed to a Maoist idea of "revolutionary purity", which has now been discarded in all but name by the leaders in Peking.

China's real interest in cementing ties with Yugoslavia remains geopolitical, as does its friendly relations with the other Balkan power which resists Soviet domination, Romania. By showing solidarity with countries in Europe which seek independence from their superpower neighbour, China can emphasise its own determination to defend itself against Soviet attack.

Reveals that China is interested in copying Yugoslav economic experiments in joint

Photograph, page 14

Mao's widow 'will not be executed'

From Harrison Salisbury
Peking

The Chinese people are quite unhappy at the reluctance of President Carter to give up his old friend Taiwan, according to Mr. Li Hsien-shan, the fourth ranking Chinese leader.

Mr. Li, one of the five members of the standing committee of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party, speaking yesterday in an interview at Peking's Great Hall of the People, told me that some American politicians affirmed that China should take into consideration the feelings of the American people on the Taiwan question. But he suggested, they were actually referring to politicians and elements of the mass media that continued to support the old friends in Taiwan. He thought that the American people did not share this view.

He suggested that in comparison with Russia the United States was on the defensive, trying to protect its vested interests while the Soviet Union was carrying out an expansionist policy in every way.

Russia was keeping up pressure on the Chinese, but its primary target was the

United States and Japan as much as China.

Mr. Li denied that China was a war-like country. It would never fire the first shot in a conventional or nuclear war. Why should we? We are not very rich, and if they say we have no raw material, it is not true. China had enough to live on.

Asked whether Chang Ching, Mao's widow, and her associates would be tried and executed, Mr. Li said with some emphasis: "We do not kill them. We will let them live and feed them."

China would not follow the precedent of Stalin. Stalin was a great Marxist leader, but he liked to kill people. He liked to kill in some cases this was really not so proper.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung had consistently held that the Chinese Communists should not kill many people. It was proper to deprive wrongdoers of all political rights, to expel them from the Communist Party and to take away their official posts. It was also appropriate not to let them be at large for a period of time.

The activities of the bag had caused difficulties in many regions, Mr. Li singled out

Hangzhou as an area of great damage and said that a year ago, when foreign friends came to see Mao Tse-tung, they were told to deal with them as they saw fit. The lake was under repairs.

Shanghai, the principal base of the gang, had suffered relatively little as it was the group's policy to maintain a stable situation in Shanghai while causing political and economic difficulties elsewhere.

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Russians go back to their rural roots

From Christopher Wren
Moscow, Aug 30

The official Soviet press may be busy orchestrating a public debate over the new constitution, but in these sultry August days many Russians seem far from preoccupied with their summer dachas.

President Brezhnev has one. So has Dr. Andrei Sakharov, the physicist and human rights activist. Even those who have been banished from the city streets for the cool of the countryside. One Soviet architect estimates that perhaps 60 per cent of Moscow's residents have access to a dacha.

If the figure sounds high, it is because the dacha is a confusing concept. Once it referred to the summer estates of the landed gentry. Today a dacha has come to mean almost any kind of roof under which to spend a holiday in the country. Senior officials have state villas complete with swimming pools and a privileged majority a dacha may be nothing more than an overpriced room rented from a collective farmer.

For most Russians, who tend to retain a spiritual sense of the dacha as a place to return to, it is not in the absence of payments or to submerge in a backyard lush with weeds. Dacha ownership has become a status symbol in a nominally classless society.

The country's leaders join the rush to the dachas, but quietly. The press does not report their unofficial movements and instead spins out messages and proclamations to convey an illusion that they are hard at work. But Mr. Brezhnev has been seen at his dachas in the Crimea, while Mr. Alexei Kosygin, the Prime Minister, is said to have a government dacha at the Baltic Sea resort of Palanga in Lithuania.

Even lesser members of the elite receive their dachas free or at nominal cost. Central Committee staff workers are said to pay only 100 rubles (\$80) a year for theirs. The road winding west from Moscow through pine forest to the communities of Barrikada and Zhukovka fills up with black limousines taking officials to retreats set back on wide roads marked "No entry".

Other communities are grouped by professions: Scientists congregate in Abramsevo, though a few such as Dr. Sakharov live in Zhukovka; dachas at Peredelkino and Krasnaya Polina are allocated to writers and theatre people; and foreigners may rent bungalows in a fenced-in government reservation.

Among those who do not qualify for a free dacha, the market to buy one is fierce. A teacher discovered that a good country home, with electricity, swimming pool and 50,000 rubles (\$40,000). They have become outrageously expensive, she reported.

Institutional cooperatives are also common. According to one writer, the cinematographers' union put up a block of flats by a lake and invited intellectuals to buy, starting at 15,000 rubles for a one-room flat.

Manual workers got attention here in the early 1960s when Nikita Khrushchev created allotments for them. These filled up with sheds that were turned into small dachas. When owners tried to expand their sheds beyond the 270 sq metres set by law, they were blocked by the authorities.

Because there are not enough dachas to meet the demand, the scramble for a summer home starts long before the snow melts.

A good dacha has to be found through a friend and played start looking in February. Mr. Aluskevich said. Every year it gets more expensive. His wife added. "Before, we thought that 500 or 600 rubles for the summer was a good price. Now it is common to go up to 1,000."

Leasing rooms has become a profitable sideline for suburban collective farmers. If they rent four rooms, they can earn 300 or 600 rubles for the summer. Mr. Aluskevich said. Every year it gets more expensive. His wife added. "Before, we thought that 500 or 600 rubles for the summer was a good price. Now it is common to go up to 1,000."

Russians, theoretically, are not allowed to have more than one residence at a time. Some have circumvented this by moving to a village near by. But this means giving up a valued residence registration in Moscow for one in the country, an irreversible bureaucratic step that even the mellowest grandmothers may be reluctant to undertake.

Because of the awkward questions that it raises about social inequality, the dacha issue is seldom discussed in the press. But when officials are disciplined for corruption, a common charge is that they have appropriated dachas for themselves. All funds to build themselves elaborate dachas. —New York Times News Service.

Students charged

Manila, Aug 30.—The Philippine Government today brought homicide charges against 18 college students because of the death of a fellow student from severe injuries suffered during a fraternity initiation rite. All of the accused, four of whom are girls, are still at large.

The drug offences were alleged to have been committed between 1967 and 1973.

Publisher faces charges in drug conspiracy

Hongkong, Aug 30.—Mr. Ma Sik-chun, a millionaire newspaper publisher, was charged today with conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs.

Mr. Ma, aged 39, who owns one of Hongkong's largest newspapers, the *Oriental Daily News*, is in hospital suffering from diabetes and was not in court when the charges were read. He is expected to appear in the next two days to enter a plea.

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Community television's last chance?

After a summer break, Channel 40, the local community television channel, will return to the screens this week to face a variety of critical viewers from its part-sponsors at the Post Office to its own audience on its own back door.

Launched jointly by the new city's Development Corporation and the Post Office eight months ago, Milton Keynes was the sixth station since 1972 to be granted a licence to operate local cable television. Its five predecessors were born of the need for the relay companies to find new uses for their cable systems which were fast becoming redundant as reception of network broadcasts even in the worst affected areas finally passed the tolerance barrier.

With one exception, the experiments were an almost total failure. Only Viewpoint at Swindon survives—and that only by the skin of its teeth.

Unlike the others, Channel 40 is not a commercial venture. It is financed by a no-strings-attached grant of £50,000 a year from the Development Corporation, and its sole function is to provide the residents with access to television equipment to make their own programmes. The idea, as it is in Swindon, is not to create a new breed of TV producers, but to provide a new means of communication for groups and individuals in the local community to exchange ideas and information.

It fits the Annual Committee's views on the future of community television: "We agree", they said in their report, "that cable television should develop as a local community service... If people can walk into their local station, borrow equipment and use it as a means of talking to the neighbours, this is a real access broadcast from him."

However, if the people in Milton Keynes are talking to their neighbours, they don't appear to be beating a path to their studio door to do it. And although eight months is hardly long enough to judge whether the experiment is succeeding or not, the signs are that the 300 potential cable viewers are still glued to BBC or ITV.

When it comes to the question of production standards, Barrett admits there is some room for improvement. The problem is how far to go: "If you go for a really professional production you fall away because there simply is not the time nor the technical resources. But even if we start to inject a little

during most of the four hours per week of Channel 40 transmissions.

A comparison with network television was inevitable from the start. Potential programme makers are understandably put off by the standards they think are expected, and potential viewers are put off by the standard box results. So the problem has been to convince people that Channel 40 is not so much inferior to network television, but different.

Michael Barrett, Channel 40's director, believes the message is slowly sinking in: "It's more a question of network TV not being able to compete with us. How could any company on the network devote four hours a week to just 30,000 people?"

Apart from any ideas Barrett and his staff might have, keeping the programme content of a local nature is a condition of the licence. Schools record centres; the Citizens Advice Bureau; there are regular features on gardening and farming; a "what's on" spot; a regular series from the natural history group; and a weekly magazine programme produced by the Development Corporation itself which follows the network formula of studio interviews mixed with filmed reports, and which smacks less of propaganda than might be expected. All this has to compete with top rating favourites like *National Geographic* and *Crossroads* between 6.00 and 7.30 in the evening.

It is not surprising that Channel 40's critics say there needs to be both a clearer programme policy and more time spent on production. Barrett on the other hand remains committed to the principle of access, and to discovering just how the community will come to use its own television station without any prompting from him.

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Robin Laurance

Katie Stewart Scones—a simple bread



reshaped in the circle for cooking. They have a floured dry and very flat surface which comes from cooking on a girdle dusted with flour. For these you need a gentle, even heat. When the girdle is ready sprinkle the surface with flour. If the flour browns too quickly the girdle is too hot. Tip the flour off and start again.

For dropped scones the girdle should be a little hotter. These are made with a thick batter and you will need to grease the girdle lightly. The traditional method was to tie a piece of meat in wool and use this for rubbing over the hot surface. But nowadays it is better to take a piece of absorbent kitchen paper, twist it into a mushroom and then dip the larger end into a saucer of oil (which you keep handy at the workbench) and grease the pan between each batch of dropped scones. It is harder to judge the correct temperature for dropped scones (necessary to achieve an even browning) and it is always wise to test the pan with a small spoonful of the mixture before making the scones in earnest.

Soda scones

Soda scones are made without any fat added. They are like a kind of plain bread and take only about 10 minutes to make.

Makes 8
8oz plain flour

1 level teaspoon salt

1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

2 level teaspoons cream of tartar

a little over 1 pint milk (about 6 fl oz)

Use a hot girdle, or an iron frying pan which has been sprinkled lightly with flour. Sieve the flour, salt, bicarbonate of soda and cream of tartar into a mixing basin. Stir in the milk to make a soft dough. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured working surface and knead lightly for a few moments to smooth the underside. Turn over and roll out to a circle rather less than 12 inch in depth. Divide the dough in two if your girdle or frying pan is small. With a knife cut right across the dough to make 8 triangular pieces. Arrange them on the girdle or frying pan and cook until well risen and lightly brown underneath. You will find that the outside of the dough dries but does not stick to the hot girdle and with a palette knife you can lift the edges and see how they are cooking. Turn them over about half way through and bake the second side until the scones are quite dry right through—takes about 8-10 minutes. I usually lower the heat even more during the second half of the cooking time and when they are ready I stand them on their sides for a moment to dry the crust too. Slide the scones off the girdle on to a clean tea cloth and keep them warm. Dust the surplus browned flour off the girdle and dust with fresh flour before baking a second batch. In Scotland you might have these scones served with butter and marmalade.

Dropped scones

The addition of golden syrup in the recipe here encourages these dropped scones to turn a beautiful, even golden brown.

Makes 2 dozen
8oz plain flour

1 level teaspoon salt

1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

2 level teaspoons cream of tartar

or castor sugar

1 dessertspoon golden syrup

1 egg

generous 1 pint milk (about 8 fl oz)

Sift together the flour, salt, bicarbonate of soda and cream of tartar. Add the sugar, syrup and egg. Stir from the centre gradually drawing in the flour from around the sides and mix to a creamy, smooth batter.

Heat the pan or girdle (previously greased) until you can feel the heat by holding your hand about 1 inch above it. Drop the mixture into round scones from a dessertspoon allowing the batter to fall off the point of the spoon. When bubbles start to burst on the surface, and the outside is a golden brown, flip them over with a palette knife. Flip them approximately 3 minutes for the first side and minutes for the second. As they come off the pan slip them into a folded tea towel to keep the steam in. Grease the girdle and buttered. Any unbaked scones that are not eaten straight away can be put in a container and they will keep fresh and soft for the next day.

Soviet 'no' to ethics standard in psychiatry

Honolulu, Aug 30.—A suggestion that the World Psychiatric Association should establish a permanent ethics committee has been sharply criticised by Soviet delegates during the first meeting of the sixth congress's general assembly here.

Dr. Clarence Blumquist, a Swedish psychiatrist, yesterday suggested the creation of a "committee on standardisation of ethics" to draw up a code of ethics for the profession, but Dr. Eduard Babayan, the Minister of Public Health who heads the Soviet delegation, immediately replied that such a commission had no reason to exist.

He argued that ethical concepts differed from country to country and that such a commission, if created, would encounter numerous political and legal obstacles.

In his opening speech he praised the "humanitarian character" of Soviet legislation on psychiatry. Citizens were examined "at least six or seven psychiatrists" before being interned in mental hospitals, he said.

When a Soviet court ruled for internment of a defendant, that was merely a recommendation, not a sentence.

During the opening session, attended by a small number of delegates, only procedural and administrative questions were discussed.

Dr. Sidney Bloch, a British delegate, of Oxford University, stated in a declaration outside the official session, that the delegations of English-speaking countries would withdraw from the world association if the congress refused to condemn the use of psychiatry for political ends.

If the congress refused to take this action, Dr. Bloch said, it would be abandoning its responsibilities and would be unrepresentative of the profession at world level.

In addition to the British and American delegations have introduced, in the name of their national psychiatric associations, resolutions severely condemning the internment of people in mental asylums for political reasons.

During the first session yesterday, the assembly elected Dr. Pierre Pichot, of the St. Anne Hospital, Paris, as president.

At a press conference here, which coincides with the opening of the congress, Mr. Leonid Plyusch, a Soviet dissident mathematician, stated that when he was interned in a psychiatric hospital at Penza, fellow inmates were kept out with drugs and lived under unbearable conditions.

Dr. Marina Volkonskaya, a former psychiatrist of Leningrad, who now lives in London, told reporters that Soviet psychiatrists must protest massively against being used as instruments of punishment by the state.—Agence France Press.

Progress seen on ban for chemical weapons

Geneva, Aug 30.—The United States told the 30-nation disarmament conference here today that it making definite progress with the Soviet Union towards a treaty banning chemical weapons.

Mr. Adrian Fisher, the American negotiator on disarmament, said that during the last meeting of the conference, he had also "put renewed effort" into a nuclear test ban.

Reporting to the final meeting of the disarmament conference this year, Mr. Fisher said Washington and Moscow would convene a special disarmament conference before the 1978 round starts next spring, if the test ban or chemical weapons initiative is successful earlier.

Apparently holding out more hope for a Soviet-American proposal on banning chemical weapons, he said: "This is a complex issue and several important questions still remain to be resolved, but I am pleased to be able to report that the positions of the two sides coincide on a number of key issues and some others we are not far apart."

He did not specify which "important questions" remain to be settled but Western experts said that these problems involved particular ways to verify that violating a treaty, and the issue of chemical agents that have military and peaceful uses.

In the nuclear field, American and British experts held preliminary talks earlier in the summer and agreed that sufficient common ground existed on a nuclear test ban for formal negotiations to start in Geneva on October 3.

The United States and Britain want these banned along with weapon tests because they say there is no way of telling the difference. But the Russians say that peaceful explosions ought to be allowed for such purposes as mining, digging canals, extinguishing oil well fires and changing courses of rivers.

Mr. Viktor Likhtey, the Soviet disarmament negotiator, said that the Soviet Union was aware that using nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes "should not in any way contribute to the proliferation of nuclear weapons or to the perfection of those weapons." —UPI and Reuters.

Hongkong claims victories in corruption war

From Our Correspondent
Hongkong, Aug 30.—The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is on target to break the back of organised corruption in Hongkong by the end of this year, according to Mr. Jack Cater, the ICAC Commissioner.

In his annual report, he says there are signs that the commission's activities have begun to hurt the corrupt and that some syndicates have begun to crack under pressure.

But there is no room for complacency, he stated. "A very great deal still remains to be done, and even when our immediate aim is achieved there can be no let-up."

Last year, 2,433 corruption complaints were received by the ICAC and 1,117 investigations initiated, resulting in the prosecution of 259 people, of whom 189 were convicted and 30 acquitted.

Dr. Marina Volkonskaya, a former psychiatrist of Leningrad, who now lives in London, told reporters that Soviet psychiatrists must protest massively against being used as instruments of punishment by the state.—Agence France Press.

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A family residence, 3 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 dining rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 porches, 2 garages, 2 carports, 2 sheds, 2 outbuildings, 2 paddocks, 2 acres of land. Price £25,000 or £35,000 without field.
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WILTSHIRE
A family residence, 3

Tennis

Umpires could use disciplinary powers at Forest Hills

won by amateurs will not be paid for by the national association concerned.

The seedings here predict that the last eight in each singles event will line up as follows: Bjorn Borg v Gilles Gerulaitis (who had an exciting match at Wimbledon), Guillermo Vilas v Raul Ramirez, Ilie Nastase v Brian Gottfried, and Jimmy Connors (a repetition of his 1975 final) v Christine Evert v Miss Jean King.

At the doubles store (who beat her at Wimbledon), Rosemary Casale v Miss Wade, and Sandy Gomez v Miss Navratilova. But there are plenty of thrilling "floater" in the field, among them the Russians competing for the first time since he was runner-up to Connors in 1974.

Connors has been pestered by some trouble and seems to have lost confidence in his fitness and his game. Some think that his loss to Jimmy Connors in last year's final, Vilas, who is French champion and has won six consecutive Wimbledon titles, is a conservative clay court diles, and Orantes, now returned to peak fitness, will form after an arm operation.

Miss Evert has not lost a clay court singles since August, 1973, and has been champion for two successive years. But she will be particularly wary of Miss Wade, who beat her at Wimbledon, and Evert crushed her by 6-0 in the Inter-City team event. Miss Wade is a more discreet railler than Evert, and her style is expected to be. These championships will provide a searching test of her new maturity.

Michael Appleton, of Lancaster, Pa., and Neil Rayner, of Harrison, N.J., said they had no explanation for the shooting.

BOYS' SINGLES: Second round:
C. J. Drury beat J. Reardon, 0-0.
C. J. Stewart beat J. L. Wingley, 2-0.
D. M. Linn beat J. M. Linn, 2-0.
A. Hatcher beat J. A. Danner, 2-0.
J. C. Hines beat J. Rich, 2-0.
J. Machin beat D. A. Lawden, 2-0.
F. J. Moffitt beat D. A. Lawden, 2-0.
J. M. Martin beat A. Wells, 0-0.
L. Nulton beat R. A. Nulton, 0-0.
D. Jovans beat R. M. Darlington, 2-0.
D. Loebe beat R. C. Robinson, 2-0.

went down, 3-5, 7-5, 6-2, to Catherine O'Brien, of Sussex.

Madison, Penn., 7-6-61; C. O'Brien beat
C. Harrison, 6-3-61.

CHESTNUT HILL, MASSACHUSETTS:
E. Nicks beat G. P. Pines, 6-3-61.
C. O'Brien, 6-3-61; C. Harrison, 6-3-61.
HARRISON, NEW YORK: Ungar, U.
S. vs. Armstrong, 6-3-61. I. Ruzsics
vs. Romanik, 6-3-61.

Cycling

**More gold
for East
Europeans**

San Cristobal, Venezuela, Aug.
30.—Eastern Europe won another
five medals in three events last
night at the world track cycling
championships. The Soviet Union,
as expected, won the gold in the
pursuit through Vera Kuznetsov,
and again, as predicted, Czechoslo-
vakia took the tandem sprint

The class one fleet, all six of

Europeans picked up another two medals in the points race expected to go to West Germany. The winner was won by Tourne, of Belgium, who together with Falyn, of Poland, the silver medal winner, and Makarov, the bronze medalist, the bronze medal winner, managed to get a one lap lead on the rest of the field. The race, contested by 30 riders, ended in confusion as the British and Italian teams both claiming they should have had the bronze medal.

They contended that Makarov had not taken a lap on the rest of the field. The officials, at the first of the race stuck to their plan and Britain had to be content with fourth and fifth places and Italy

although they do not always reach the protest committee. Two of the boats were claimed by others to

When Torne, Fatyn an Makarov, who had accompanied them in earlier breaks, raced away with about 10 kilometres to go, however, they could stay

Six changes in

cede the lap wiped out their points lead. Hallam finished fourth with 20 points, while the people, a superb performer in his class, although he is only 19, had 31. Tourne had 29 to Faltysky's 21 and Makarov's 14.

The middle sprint provided some thrilling racing before Vackar and Vymazal, of Czechoslovakia, took the title ahead of Semenov and Voronin, of the Soviet Union. The pair of West Germany, kept Kozliski and Kocot, of Poland, the reigning champions, to the bronze.

The Czechoslovak and Soviet runners were the main threat behind to win their semi-final round races after losing the first race in the best of three series. They were the only medal for the Czechoslovaks, who

Boxing

He has now won three silver medals and a bronze with three different partners to add to the Olympic gold medal.

The women's pursuit was something of a foregone conclusion with Miss Kuznetsova completing a clean sweep of the track gold medals, having won them in their first appearance at the World Championships since 1974.

Results:

LONG RACE FINAL: 1. C. Toupin (Belgium), 39 min-50.11 seconds; 2. J. van den Broek (Netherlands), 39 min-54.40 sec; 3. A. Faltin (Poland), 40 min-1.00 sec; 4. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 40 min-1.14 sec; 5. I. Hallam (GB), 42 min-20.00 sec; 6. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 42 min-20.00 sec.

TANDUM SPRINT FINAL: 1. G. H. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec; 2. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec; 3. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec; 4. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec; 5. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec; 6. J. van der Horst (Netherlands), 10 min-1.00 sec.

you good, getting beaten. Do not believe it. But it does make you

WOMEN'S PURSUIT: Gold medal: V. Kuusela (FINL); 4min 1.85sec. Boat S. Riemonsaari (NED); 4:58.47. Bronze medal: K. Stroma (CANADA); 1:40.63. Boat S. Burke (CANADA); 4:36.63.

Mark Twain
Heaven
White Suit Blues
Lycium, Edinburgh
Not Chaillet
...
Vale of Glam
own festival

The Renault 30. A car to re-awaken the driver that lurks inside all of us.



Remember your very first sports car?

Fast. Responsive. And loads of fun to drive.

But hopelessly impractical once you've progressed into bigger saloons.

Which are certainly much more comfortable, but often very boring to drive.

With one notable exception.

The Renault 30 is among the most luxurious prestigious saloons on the road.

But with a 2.7 litre V6 engine it easily puts most sports cars to shame.

Acceleration is remarkable at 0-60 in 9.7 seconds, and a top speed of over 112mph makes

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However, it's the handling as well as the performance which makes the Renault 30 such a joy to drive.

Front wheel drive and the positive but light power steering put you firmly in control behind the wheel.

And fully independent suspension gives an uncannily smooth ride, even on bumpy roads that you'd never dare to negotiate in the average two seater.

Comfort, of course, is the Renault 30's strong point.

Sumptuous seating for five adults is helped by fully reclining front seats and 56" of elbow room in the back.

Which still leaves space for a cavernous boot under the tailgate.

(You can even fold away the back seats, giving you thirty



LUGGAGE SPACE WITH THE PARCELS SHELF REMOVED.

four cubic feet. More than any car in its class.)

Standard fittings include a centralised door locking system, electric front windows and cigar lighters back and front.

But for all its passenger comforts, the Renault 30 is still very much a car for the driver.

And if you still yearn for those days when you raced along with the wind in your hair and the sun on your face, we do offer one consolation.

An electric sunroof as an optional extra.

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OBITUARY
LORD POPP
Service to the

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Service to the

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Air delays and holiday tour operators' profits, p17

EC in disarray over Danish moves to devalue green crown

By R. W. Shakespeare
More than 15,000 British Leyland car workers were idle yesterday with five separate model ranges out of production and other assembly lines being progressively run down because of shopfloor disputes. Most of these disputes involve component suppliers and are, therefore, outside the control of the state-owned car firm.

It seems inevitable that the chaos in the motor industry will become even more widespread during the week and that more production will have to stop. Many thousands more workers up and down the country are facing lay-offs.

Although Leyland is taking the brunt of the disruption at present, Ford, Chrysler and Vauxhall are all vulnerable with their engine and component suppliers being run down. But for the recent holiday shutdown these stocks would probably have already been exhausted.

An added complication is that some alternative, overseas sources of components are starting to dry up.

The biggest trouble arises from the eight-week strike by Lucas toolroom workers which has closed 14 of the group's component factories in the Midlands. These plants supply a wide range of electrical components to the motor industry, with Leyland by far the biggest customer. Nearly 2,000 other Lucas workers have been laid off.

OFT takes concrete companies to court

By Malcolm Brown
Mr Gordon Borrie, the Director-General of Fair Trading, is to take companies which operated alleged price rings in the ready-mixed concrete industry to the Restrictive Practices Court.

The Office of Fair Trading announced Mr Borrie's decision yesterday when it placed on the office register a further 13 alleged price-fixing agreements, bringing the total so far to 20. The OFT said there might still be a handful of further cases.

Mr Borrie will ask the Restrictive Practices Court to make an order stopping the companies involved giving evidence to the alleged agreements or making any similar ones.

The agreements placed on the register yesterday were all identical, involving an agreement between companies covering an area that one of their members should win a particular contract.

Tender prices were then arranged to ensure that the chosen company got the contract. Some of the arrangements lasted for as long as 11 years.

Among the companies which the OFT register shows as involved in a significant number of these deals are Amey Roadstone Corporation, Ready Mixed Concrete, and Mixconcrete.

Amey said yesterday that it had no comment to make on Mr Borrie's action. RMC said that the agreements had been registered; the company would have to consider its position before the court.

The areas referred to in the agreements placed on the register yesterday were Reading, the Mendips, Birmingham, High Wycombe, the Aldershot-Farnborough-Camberley area, the Reading and Purley area, Banbury, Carmarthen, Chesham, Evesham, Cheltenham, Gloucester, and the Swindon-Cirencester and Bradford-upon-Avon area.

Last week the OFT placed on the register agreements covering Buckinghamshire, Wales, Yorkshire and the city of York.

Disputes at home and away make 15,000 idle at Leyland and threaten further cutbacks

By R. W. Shakespeare
More than 15,000 British Leyland car workers were idle yesterday with five separate model ranges out of production and other assembly lines being progressively run down because of shopfloor disputes. Most of these disputes involve component suppliers and are, therefore, outside the control of the state-owned car firm.

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The 1,200 strikers have rejected a company offer of £3-a-week bonus increase, plus a £100 per head lump sum payment to cover loss of bonus earnings during the period before the strike when they were working to rule. They are holding out for at least £5 a week more.

Their leaders have threatened to call on motor industry workers to "black" imported components. How far this threat has influenced decisions by car companies to go on importing, or the extent to which there is a genuine dry up of overseas sources, it is difficult to judge. The companies have been reluctant to give many details about the quantity of components they have been bringing in—or their sources.

The cumulative effects are disastrous for Leyland. About 11,600 workers are laid off as a direct result of the Lucas dispute. The Princess, Marina, MG and Triumph Spitfire ranges are out of production because of component shortages, and Triumph Dolomite output is being run down.

Leyland has trouble in two other areas. At Jaguar in Coventry production is halted apart from some final assembly operations on partly completed cars—because of component shortages resulting from problems at key suppliers, Desoutter and A. C. Delco. There could be more lay-offs at Jaguar today.

In the nearby Jaguar engines and transmissions factory 1,300 workers are still involved in a strike that began last week. All production is stopped, with 650 more workers laid off.

This stoppage is in support of a £20-a-week pay demand. The Jaguar workers sidestepped a phase two pay settlement of 5 per cent—offered by the company—and lodged their £20 claim which runs contrary not only to the Government's policy but to Leyland's own renewed efforts to rationalize pay structures throughout its car manufacturing operations.

But Leyland's car plant at Loughbridge, Birmingham, is at present operating normally, although it may run into component supply problems soon.

The great majority of Loughbridge workers turned up for work as usual yesterday after a rebellion by shopfloor moderates forced shop stewards to call off plans for an all-out strike that was to have started at the weekend.

The stewards had lodged a claim for a 47 per cent wage increase. The management offer, when the company replied, envisaged a deal—tied to productivity increases—that could mean a 32 per cent increase or about £20 a week on average spread over the next two years.

Some figures suggest that a shopfloor vote taken among the Loughbridge workers showed a substantial majority in favour of accepting the company's proposals—almost 5,000 for with under 5,000 against and about 6,000 workers not voting at all.

Longer-term loans under IMF's new facility

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Aug 30
The executive board of the International Monetary Fund has settled the conditions under which its new supplementary financing facility is to operate.

The facility, widely named after Dr Johannes Witteveen, the IMF's managing director, is likely to have initial resources of \$600 million special drawing rights, which is approximately \$100 million (about £57.7m).

In designing the operating terms of the Witteveen facility, the board has clearly taken into account the pressing need today of many countries to borrow more money from the IMF than the sums to which their quotas entitle them, as well as to borrow under longer repayment conditions than are generally applied to IMF loans.

The facility may well play an important role in aiding countries to finance high balance of payments deficits. A country "only draw upon the Witteveen resources when it can demonstrate that its needs for balance of payments financing are well above its standard quota entitlement."

Countries normally can borrow their full quota entitlement in separate tranches, with each tranche equal to one quarter of the quota total. Modern conditions are attached to the first tranche drawing but there are tougher terms for drawings on the three so-called upper tranches.

Under normal circumstances a country can only borrow additional funds under the special facility arrangements when it enters into agreements with the IMF to make upper-tranche borrowings.

Under normal circumstances the new facility will equal 12.5 per cent of the total quota for each additional tranche and 30 per cent of the total quota for each additional tranche, so enabling a country effectively to draw a maximum of 100 per cent of quota plus another 102.5 per cent.

Even larger drawings on normal quota levels and from the supplementary facility will be allowed under the special terms of borrowing agreements decided upon at the IMF conference in Jamaica last year.

These special agreements will be ended when the IMF's new articles are fully ratified, which is expected to happen later this year.

The IMF stated that there may also be "special circumstances" under which a country can borrow amounts beyond the upper tranche entitlements. These amounts will come fully from the new facility.

Repayment conditions of borrowings from the Witteveen facility reflect the IMF's recognition that some countries need longer periods to repay their debts in full.

Normally, a country must repay an IMF drawing in three to five years and make its drawing up to one year after agreeing stand-by credit line conditions.

Drawings from the new facility can be made up to three years after agreements have been reached and repayment can be made in three to seven years.

The IMF executive has not yet set the interest rate charges it will make on borrowings from its new facility. It has agreed, however, that contributors to the facility will obtain the interest rate from the IMF of 7 per cent for the period to June 30, 1978, and thereafter the rate will be set every six months in line with prevailing rates on five-year United States government securities.

According to the IMF 13 countries so far, including Switzerland have said they are prepared to contribute specific amounts to the Witteveen facility. A further contribution is likely from Nigeria.

These 13 countries have agreed to total contributions of \$435m SDRs and the IMF said that this means the overall total will probably reach or exceed \$600m SDRs.

More countries may take devaluation path

By R. W. Shakespeare
Enough to maintain the country's competitiveness with Sweden, in other words about 10 per cent.

The dollar, meantime, had an erratic day, rising sharply against the Swiss franc at first, but dropping back equally sharply later.

Its late fall was particularly strong against the Swiss franc, which has seen a considerable inflow of foreign funds in recent weeks.

The Swiss authorities are known to have become increasingly concerned about this inflow and are thought to be considering further foreign exchange restrictions.

Earlier Mr Carl-Henrik Nordlander, governor of Sweden's central bank, told Reuters that there was a considerable inflow of capital into Sweden on Monday following the 10 per cent devaluation.

But he declined to confirm press reports that the central bank bought nearly \$240m (about £141m), thereby recovering almost a quarter of the reserves it lost earlier in a vain attempt to maintain the Swedish krona within the joint European float or "snake".

The pound had a good day, rising marginally against the dollar—up 0.03 cent, at \$1.7423—compared with its Friday night level, and against other currencies. In order against a basket of currencies closed yesterday at 62.3, compared with 62.0 on Friday (December, 1971=100 on this index).

Government of Finland yesterday said to be seeking a "consensus" on devaluation of its currency, and expected to decide today on a package of economic measures.

Finland is regarded as inevitable, and the question appears to be of how much the mark should be raised in value. The decision is expected to be a "safety" measure in the national wages settlement.

Meanwhile, the Finnish Minister, suggested that devaluation by a few per cent could provoke trade union leaders for a new round of negotiations. But trade union leaders said the renegotiation of the settlement would probably take some time, the announcement has urged by devaluation of the currency should be big.

Lucas offshoot wins order for VW equipment

By R. W. Shakespeare
The Lucas offshoot, announced yesterday that it had won a multimillion pound contract to supply fuel injection equipment for the Volkswagen Golf diesel engine.

The components will be produced at the CAV plants at Sudbury, Suffolk, and Medway, Kent.

Volkswagen will at first take complete injection systems at the rate of 250 a day, which will push up output of the diesel Golf to level as from the model to be imported into Britain early next year.

Other diesel carmakers already using CAV equipment include Peugeot and Citroen in France and Chrysler in Spain.

UK reassurance after Mini order goes to Germany

By Edward Townsend
British Leyland's decision to place a second big contract for machine tools with a foreign manufacturer should not be used as the basis for firm conclusions about the company's buying policies, the Machine Tool Trades Association said yesterday.

The association said it was disappointed the order had not gone to a United Kingdom company, but Leyland Cars was only beginning its big capital investment and the machine tool industry was fully aware that Leyland would be buying about \$40m of equipment by the end of next year.

This order, worth £4.6m, has gone to Heller of West Germany and covers the supply of an automatic line for the production of a radius arm for the rear suspension unit of the Mini replacement model.

Three United Kingdom companies and two from Germany tendered for the contract and a spokesman for Leyland said the Heller tender most closely met the stringent requirements of Leyland engineers.

He added that it was the company's intention to buy British tools, "but obviously since we are an internationally competitive motor manufacturer it is sometimes necessary for us to go abroad for the expertise required."

A few weeks ago, Leyland Cars awarded a contract worth about £7m for special welding machines to another German company, KUKA.

Meanwhile, Leyland Cars was reluctant to comment yesterday on reports that its plan to double output of Land Rover and Range Rover models had run into shop floor opposition at the Triumph plant at Canley in Coventry and the Rover factory at Solihull.

The expansion will mean that some workers, particularly at Canley, will have to transfer jobs, and the introduction of an extra shift at Solihull.

Leyland is insisting on prior approval to the plan from workers and has proposed the establishment of a joint working party to discuss the scheme.

Large sections of Triumph and Rover workers have opted out or are refusing to join Leyland's general participation plans.

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Buyers give shares further boost

By Our Financial Staff
The FT Index resumed its upward march to 500 yesterday as buyers returned from the long weekend. The level of trading was slow to pick up, however, and was mainly concentrated on front line stocks. But leaders withstood a bout of profit-taking and the index went on to show a 6.4 improvement to 490.9. Ending on Friday, this traditionally sluggish account is so far showing a 2.3 rise.

ICI unveiled its second-quarter profits tomorrow and jobber confidence was reflected in a 5p improvement to 412p. The retail sector was also well to the fore on hopes of a consumer spending upturn this autumn and Boots, Scottish and Universal Investments and W. H. Smith & Son were prominent.

Beecham Group captured much of the attention with the help of rumours that it was about to split its shares into more marketable form. The group later denied that it was preparing to take this course despite its merits. The shares improved 18p to 620p.

New stockbroker firm: The new stockbroker firm: The tone of returning optimism was appropriately caught as the Stock Exchange officially sanctioned the formation of a new firm of stockbrokers, Kent, East, Newton & Co. The new firm will start trading on October 17 and, subject to election to membership of the Stock Exchange, Mr Richard Grahame and an external limited partner will head the firm with Mr John East and Mr Peter Kent.

Financial Editor, page 17

Big claims at Clyde shipyards

Govan Shipbuilders' board will, at a meeting in Glasgow next week, consider a 20 per cent pay claim on behalf of almost 3,000 workers—the company has a labour force, including staff, of 5,500—which was agreed overwhelmingly by a meeting of shop stewards in Govan yesterday.

The claim covers manual workers at both the Govan and Scotstoun Marine yards. The men are also looking for a further 6 per cent increase in fringe benefits, an additional claim for consolidation of increases under two phases of pay restraint, mainly for holiday pay benefit.

The workers at the naval yard of Yarrow, down the Clyde, have put in a claim for an increase of about 65 per cent to include fringe benefits.

These claims come on the eve of a visit to Scotland by the Prime Minister.

PO criticized for 'sour' views on Carter report

Mr Charles Carter, chairman of the committee of inquiry into the Post Office, yesterday criticized the corporation for its initial response to the committee's report, published last month.

The corporation's reaction had been "distinctly sour", said Mr Carter, who is Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University.

The Post Office view seemed to be that the inquiry was unnecessary and incompetent—something best forgotten.

Such a response, Mr Carter told a seminar organized in London by the Mail Users' Association, was "unwise". It would have been difficult to find a more competent committee, so what the corporation really meant was that no outside body was competent to inquire into its affairs. That was an unacceptable view.

Mr Carter, whose committee recommended the reorganization of the corporation into two separate organizations, handling posts and telecommunications respectively, said the report had been unanimous.

The committee was not a collection of nonentities persuaded by an overbearing chairman to give assent to his own ideas.

He urged the Post Office to pay heed to the fact that after reading a great deal of evidence and hearing from the corporation itself, a common impression was to be found among the committee that the Post Office had become too much of an "inward-turning organization" convinced of its own rightness in everything.

In consequence it appeared to its customers very often to be arrogant and insensitive, and appeared to the rest of business not really to know how business was done.

Urging interested parties not to let public discussion die away between now and publication of the Government's expected White Paper on the subject, Mr Carter said that among the many problems which needed discussion were three which stood out:

First, how to ensure that a powerful public monopoly operated in accordance with the public interest.

Secondly, how to avoid the problems and disadvantages of great size and long chains of command.

Finally, how one could make a success of those competitive businesses—such as parcels and Giro—which were associated with the main monopoly business of the corporation.



Mr Carter: Post Office view unacceptable



Mr de Nemours: some signals in the economy

Tighter credit policy feared in America

Continued from page 1
Plant and equipment and for consumer products, and a drop in new construction permits issued.

The index also recorded increases in the money supply, in stock prices and in business liquid assets and a fall in wholesale prices.

The composite index is designed to predict movements in the economy and the last time it changed direction for three successive months was in the spring of 1975, when it accurately indicated the trough of the recession.

It has been climbing somewhat erratically ever since then and this is the first time since 1974 when it has fallen for three consecutive months.

The only encouraging news on the economic front today was a set of predictions for new car sales in the 1978 model year that is just about to start.

Mr William Bourke, executive vice-president of the Ford Motor Company, said a press conference that total United States car and commercial vehicle sales in the new model year are likely to reach at least the high 1977 level of 14.6 million units.

General Motors last week predicted that new sales would actually reach 15.5 million units.

The Fed's disclaimer about monetary policy is being viewed with some suspicion in the markets, where fears persist of a further tightening in credit policies.

The rate of money supply growth continues well in excess of the Fed's declared target ranges and further sharp increases in the money stock in the next couple of weeks are widely expected to bring still tighter monetary policies.

Such a change in Fed policies is likely to be evident in its operations in regard to the rate for federal funds. This rate had moved upwards over the last month and the Fed now appears to be striving to hold this rate around 6 per cent.

A further, even modest gain in the rate for Fed funds, which is quite widely anticipated, could prompt the commercial banks in the next few weeks to raise their prime lending rates to 7 1/2 per cent from the recently established widespread level of 7 per cent.

Despite mounting evidence of a slowdown in the economy's general growth rate and a moderation in the inflation level, there is general acceptance in the markets and among bankers that interest rates are unlikely to fall below current levels and may well rise modestly from now to the end of the year.

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the markets moved

The Times index: 202.15+1.79	
The FT index: 490.9+6.4	
THE POUND	
5p to 23p	Hawker Siddeley 4p to 19p
10p to 62p	ICI 8p to 41p
15p to 21p	Thomas Jordan 11p to 15p
15p to 22p	Ladbrooke 8p to 9p
15p to 22p	Laforet 12p to 46p
2p to 11p	Lawrie 12p to 46p
10p to 35p	Lindco 12p to 46p
10p to 40p	Royal Insurance 4p to 37p
7p to 10p	W H Smith 15p to 70p
15p to 35p	Sainsbury 5p to 52p
7p to 52p	Sun Alliance 5p to 52p
4p to 82p	Myson 11p to 45p
rose 3 points up at	at 1479.1 (previous 1481.2)
The effective exchange	Reports, pages 18 and 19
index was at 62.3,	Equities rose strongly as the
rose 51.25 an ounce to	market picked up after the holiday.
75,	Gilt were wanted ahead of
rose 1.16134 on Tuesday,	Friday's expected boost in
S&P-E was 666.32,	Britain's official reserves.
edities: Reuter's index was	Dollar premium 67.25 per cent
	(effective rate 25.31 per cent).

Shell Chemicals in ethylene cracker deal with Esso

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent
Plans for exporting large quantities of ethylene to Europe were announced yesterday by Shell Chemicals UK.

The company disclosed that it had signed a preliminary agreement with EssoChem Europe which would give Shell access to 40 per cent of the output of a 500,000 tonnes a year capacity ethylene cracker which Esso wants to build in Scotland.

Esso's plan would involve the construction of a plant at Mossburn, Fife, to process shale derived from a natural gas liquids separation plant to be operated by Shell which would take its supplies from the Shell Esso Brent field in the North Sea.

Both plants, which involve a combined investment of more than £400m, have been the subject of planning inquiries earlier this year, and the Secretary

Shell Chemicals in ethylene cracker deal with Esso

of State for Scotland is expected to announce his decision before the end of the year.

If approval is given for the cracker and associated petrochemical project, Esso hopes to bring the plant on stream in mid-1982.

The arrangement announced by Shell yesterday, which is subject to board and planning approval, will enable the company to meet Shell's ethylene requirements in the 1980s.

The company said that initially the ethylene obtained from the Mossburn cracker would be exported to the Continent.

During the inquiry, Mr Anthony Poir, vice-president of EssoChem Europe, stated that if the plant received the go-ahead it would represent a new export potential of some £250m a year.

Investigations in US on Triumph cars

Washington, Aug 30.—America's Department of Transportation said yesterday it was initiating two safety investigations involving cars made by British Leyland since 1968.

The first concerned windshield wiper malfunction between 1969 until end-1977 on Triumph Spitfire, TR-6, TR-7 and Stag cars. The department said 128 complaints had been reported.

The second investigation concerned lighting system failures between 1970 and end-1977 in the Triumph Spitfire, TR-6 and TR-7 cars, with 69 complaints received, the agency said.

Stating that 185,000 vehicles were involved in each investigation, the agency said no accidents or injuries had been reported as a result of either problem.—Reuter.

Shell Chemicals in ethylene cracker deal with Esso

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent
Plans for exporting large quantities of ethylene to Europe were announced yesterday by Shell Chemicals UK.

The company disclosed that it had signed a preliminary agreement with EssoChem Europe which would give Shell access to 40 per cent of the output of a 500,000 tonnes a year capacity ethylene cracker which Esso wants to build in Scotland.

Esso's plan would involve the construction of a plant at Mossburn, Fife, to process shale derived from a natural gas liquids separation plant to be operated by Shell which would take its supplies from the Shell Esso Brent field in the North Sea.

Both plants, which involve a combined investment of more than £400m, have been the subject of planning inquiries earlier this year, and the Secretary

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Citibank Rome inquiry

Citibank announced in New York that it was investigating Italian press reports of financial problems at its branch in Rome.

INTERIM REPORT

Unaudited Results for the Group for the six months ended	30 June 1977	30 June 1976	Year to 31 Dec 1976
Sales	13,340	10,080	21,089
Group Profit before Tax	2,004	1,422	3,137
Group Profit after Tax	962	682	1,506
Profit before Tax Percentage to Sales	15.0%	14.1%	14.9%
Earnings per Share	6.9p	5.1p	11.1p
* Adjusted for Bonus Issue October 1976, and Bonus element of Rights Issue July 1977.			
★ Continuing progress and growth.			
★ Sales up 32.3%. Profit before tax up 40.9% on the comparable half year of 1976.			
★ Earnings per Share up 35.3% on the comparable half year of 1976.			
★ Successful Rights Issue completed earlier this month.			
★ The Directors particularly acknowledge the hard work, enthusiasm and ability of both Management and Employees.			
Copies of the Interim Statement available from the Secretary.			

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Passengers desert the trains as high costs and unprofitable routes lead to financial crisis

Japanese railways run up £11,700m debts

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Aug 30

Japan National Railways, one of the world's fastest and most efficient transport systems, has drifted into a financial crisis after running up staggering debts of £11,700m in recent years.

Radical economists have described the immediate losses and debts of the railways as "virtual bankruptcy", but others believe the government can bail the nation's major transport system out with long-term loans.

The magnitude of the public corporation's crippling debts was revealed today when auditors announced that Japan National Railways sustained another loss of £2,000m last year. This comes after the railway system, which introduced Japan's much vaunted "bullet trains" into service 13 years ago, lost a little less than £2,000m in 1975.

Although the government has staved off a financial crisis with loans, subsidies and deficit financing, auditors warned the railway administration that the system's long-term debts now total £11,700m.

Essentially the corporation's losses can be attributed to three factors: a sharp increase in the wages of 430,000 public railway servants, the rising cost of electricity as a result of the volume of passengers and freight towards private railways, road transport and private cars.

The national railway system is also saddled with a multitude of unprofitable routes constructed over the years to placate local politicians.

Prompted by the new strength of Japanese trade unions, wages have, for instance, doubled over the past five years to provide the average Japanese railway worker with the current monthly income of £400 excluding food benefits.

A growing phenomenon in Japan, known as "Bikoku byo", translated as "the English disease", or labour unrest, has also bedevilled the railways with a number of costly strikes in recent years.

But the basic malady is a growing preference for private transportation, particularly for freight. In 1960, when the national railway system was at its peak, it carried 12 per cent of the total volume of Japan's passengers and 51 per cent of country's freight.

Today the national railways' share in the volume of transportation has declined to 30 per cent in terms of passengers and even more disastrously to 12 per cent in the area of cargo movements.

The latest increase in fares has, ironically, hit the national railways' budget. For instance, luxury coaches on the bullet trains are now virtually empty as they travel the 345 miles between Tokyo and Osaka.

The price of a one-day first class ticket is £30 compared to a share of £22. Loans have been raised and the government has juggled with figures. Yet the prospects of recovery for the national railway system—still responsible for the movement of 25 million passengers every day—look gloomy.

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Plessey sit-in continues

A sit-in at a Plessey engineering company in Swindon, Wiltshire, went into its fifth day instead of ending yesterday—because fewer than half the workforce turned up for a meeting.

The 600 workers were expected to vote to hand control of the hydraulics factory back to the management, after taking it over last Thursday in protest at 60 layoffs.

But when fewer than 300 of the hourly-paid workers arrived it was decided to adjourn the meeting until today.

Many of the shopfloor workers in the engineering and transport unions voted against a Plessey spokesman said management officials—who are locked out—were still hoping to get the dispute back into constitutional procedure so that normal working could be resumed.

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Japan's payments surplus rises

Tokyo, Aug 30.—Japan had a revised overall payments surplus of \$937m (about £551m) in July, up from \$699m in June and \$721m in July last year.

The Finance Ministry said the surplus rose to a record \$2,050m in July from \$1,480m in June and £1,010m in July 1976.

July exports rose 23 per cent from a year before to \$7,180m, while imports rose 5 per cent to \$5,050m.

The year-on-year increases compared with 17.1 per cent and 9.1 per cent for exports and imports respectively in June.

Seasonally-adjusted exports showed a 4.2 per cent rise over June, due partly to active deliveries of ships and cars, while seasonally-adjusted imports fell 0.6 per cent due to slow arrivals of crude oil and textile raw materials.

The invisible trade deficit decreased slightly because a sharp increase in Japanese tourist expenditures was more than offset by non-recurrent income from the sale of Japanese mining rights overseas.

'Bottle banks' plan attacked

By Edward Townsend
A campaign by glass manufacturers in the United Kingdom to promote a "bottle bank" recycling scheme has been criticised by Friends of the Earth, the environmental group, as misleading and diverting attention from the main area of concern.

The scheme, launched last week in Oxford and Barnley, involves the use of special skips, called "bottle banks", into which householders will be expected to discard non-returnable glass bottles and jars. The waste glass or cullet will then be reprocessed by container manufacturers.

Friends of the Earth, which has for a number of years attacked the increasing use of non-returnable containers, now plans to express concern to the Glass Manufacturers Federation about the publicity surrounding the "bottle bank".

Mr Richard Bates, the FOE spokesman, said the new scheme had been presented as a solution to the waste glass problem "which is getting the importance of the bottle bank idea out of proportion".

The federation has calculated that bottle banks covering the country could collect waste glass worth £11m a year to the local authorities. Mr Bates maintained that the alternative method of using returnable containers could achieve far greater savings. But that of course is not the subject of the campaign makers.

FOE claims that more energy can be saved by the repeated refilling of containers but agrees that there has been little study of the issue in the United Kingdom.

TV colour set sales for June stay sluggish

By Patricia Tisdall
Despite the Silver Jubilee celebrations, sales of colour television sets remained sluggish in June, increasing only slightly to 118,000 sets from 109,000 in the same month a year ago.

Figures released by the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association yesterday bring the total for the first six months to 700,000 sets, up by 14 per cent on the first half 1976.

Almost all the increase was caused by a rise in imported sets which totalled 150,000 sets against deliveries by United Kingdom manufacturers of 550,000 units. During June, however, there was an improvement in the proportion of colour television sets delivered which were made in Britain. Of a total of 118,000, 102,000 were made in the United Kingdom against 78,000 in a total of 100,000 a month earlier.

The same system of checks and balances that corporations operating at the national level are.

He puts forward a four-point plan:

● Planning agreements which ensure the multinationals do not conflict with economic and social objectives.

Fabian call for tougher check on multinationals

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor
Recent "sensational revelations" about corrupt dealing by multinational companies are only the tip of the iceberg of malpractice, the Fabian Society says in the pamphlet published yesterday. It calls for tougher supervision of such companies by governments and the unions.

In *Transnational Corporations: A Strategy for Control*, Mr Carl Williams-Wright of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, argues it is unfortunate that so much public attention has been directed at illegal practices compared to supposedly legal activities.

The investment policy, pricing and trade policy, monopoly power and labour relations of these corporations, as assessed on any objective basis, are far from "legitimate", he says.

"There is a vast, uncontrolled concentration of economic power which is not subject to

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The same system of checks and balances that corporations operating at the national level are.

He puts forward a four-point plan:

● Planning agreements which ensure the multinationals do not conflict with economic and social objectives.

● Greater supervision of investment and takeovers through the creation of a Foreign Investment Agency with power to conclude investment agreements with non-British companies.

● A Commons Select Committee to scrutinise the investment of multinationals in countries like China and South Africa to minimise exploitation of workers.

● Legislation to deal with restrictive business practices, tax evasion and the impact of the multinationals on monetary and trade policies.

* Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth Street, London, SW1; 75p.

Disadvantage of garage incentive schemes

By Mr F. G. Planell
Sir, As a garage mechanic I agree with your article on incentive payment schemes "reducing efficiency of garages" (*The Times*, August 19).

Bonus schemes may be good for garage work output, but they are bad for customers and mechanics. For the customer there is a risk of work being slumped and the bill is the same even if the work is done in half the time allowed.

As regards the mechanic, bonus schemes create bad feeling in the workshop. Arguments over use of hydraulic ramps, where many jobs can be done quicker, arise. Some jobs require an extra pair of hands—eg, to bleed brakes or check the steering on a MOT test. That extra pair of hands objects to being taken away from its own job.

In fact, it is only because mechanics are not to be too "bonus conscious" that actual fights are usually averted. Also, mechanics do take some pride in their work, more in some cases than the state of the customer's car deserves.

If mechanics were not separated from customers by a barrier of "staff"—receptionist, workshop foreman, service manager—the quality of work would improve. It would be some compensation, after spending a morning on one's back under a dirty engine, to be thanked by the grateful customer.

Yours,
P. G. PLANELL,
Forest Lawn,
Wimborne,
Dorset, BH14 9JH.
August 20.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Energy factor in the economic equation

From Professor J. O'M. Bockris
Sir, In 1960 the Dow Jones Index exceeded 1000 for the first time. For the last 17 years it has been usually below that figure, while the value represented by the dollar figures has declined at the rate of several per cent per annum.

Western economists treat these symptoms of inflation and lack of sufficient jobs to match people as if they were caused by special local factors, although the change is being felt in all capitalist countries.

The following conclusions of energy economics are factors which may provide a basis to the general answers needed:

1. The average real income in a population is proportional to the energy available per person. The exhaustion (or real increase in price) phase has begun for natural gas and oil. The lack of continued climb in energy per head supplies a reducing in the rate of increase of average personal income, and the value of the unit of currency therefore has to be decreased, to continue with the same apparent value.

2. Machines are cheaper than workers. But to replace workers with machines (at several per cent per year) and not to have unemployment implies continuous economic expansion, which means an increase of energy per head.

3. That was possible only when energy was expanded or plentiful. Hence, growing unemployment.

Doomsday predictions are commonplace: that should not make us neglect them. The present one indicates that inflation and unemployment will increase until a way of getting cheap energy from renewable sources has been devised: and job-eliminating automation is applied not freely at the wish of the manufacturer but when there is enough energy for expansion which has to go hand in hand with the automation to provide new jobs to the displaced workers.

However, the cheap energy of the last 100 years has been obtained by selling cheaply the contents of what must now be regarded as a limited savings account—of fossil fuels and supplies. Nothing in the research and development prospects for converting the renewable resources to usable energy suggests that there will be a source as cheap as the fossil fuels we have built our civilization. As this is the stored (through photosynthesis) solar energy of the last billion years, this is not surprising.

We have had an explosive growth through spending capital. Our troubles are symptoms of its nearing exhaustion. This exhaustion will also occur in time in Russia, but significantly, not for one or two generations after ours.

Sincerely,
J. O'M. BOCKRIS,
Professor of Chemistry,
The Flinders University of
South Australia,
Bedford Park,
South Australia,
August 15.

Post Office Engineers' overtime

From Mr M. Morris
Sir, Your article on "Over-time: One Cause of Unemployment" (*August 23*)—showed the average weekly overtime worked by PO Engineers as 7.7 hours, placing them high in the public sector average.

In fact the average overtime rate this year for PO engineers has been 2.1 hours a week. Last year it was 1.8 hours a week, and it has never been anywhere near your figure of 7.7 hours during the last 20 years.

PO Engineering has consistently run at overtime rates much lower than those which have been typical for the industries you listed. As your article advocated, overtime is used to deal with fluctuations in the work, and for some special jobs (such as emergency service restoration and continuous rota duties); and management and unions alike favour strict controls.

Yours faithfully,
M. MORRIS, Director,
Post Office Telecommunications
Management Services,
212 Gresham Street,
London EC2V 7AG,
August 26.

A cause of British decline

From Mr O. H. Parsons
Sir, In the early 1960s at the London School of Economics Professor Hayek used to advance the theory that the world depression was caused by the extravagant housing policy of the Social Democratic Council of Vienna.

The deflation of their loans from the Credit Austriak led, so the theory went, to the collapse of that institution; this in turn led to the failure of the German banking complex and thence, on the domino principle, to the disasters of Britain, the United States, and the rest of the western economic system.

Now he is arguing that "the chief cause of Britain's economic decline" is the limited legal power to sue trade unions for tort.

His many former students will be delighted at this confirmation that age has not withered nor custom staled the learned professor. Now that Beachcomber is no longer available, we can only hope the continued pronouncements of Professor Hayek (Whom God Preserves) of Obergurgl.

Yours faithfully,
O. H. PARSONS,
Solicitor, Motley House,
201 Regent Street,
London, W1,
August 22.



Properties under £25,000

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Directorate for Hydraulic Engineering Projects

International Invitation to Tender

International tenders are invited for construction work for the diverting of solid deposits from the KSOB dam on the Oued KSOB (Wells of Al-Ammar).

The work will comprise the construction of:

- A horse-shoe shaped gallery entirely lined with concrete of a diameter of some 4 metres and approximately 1,000 metres long.
- Inlet and discharge structures (head works some 15 metres long, make-up basin, approximately 25 metres long).

Civil engineering firms interested in the project may obtain tender specifications from Direction des Projets et des Réalisations Hydrauliques, Oued St. Charles—Bimandras—Algiers (Algeria).

Tenders accompanied by the necessary documentation should be sent in a sealed envelope to Monsieur le Directeur des Projets et des Réalisations Hydrauliques at the above address to arrive not later than 10 a.m. on 30 October 1977.

Bidders shall be bound by their tenders for a period of 120 days.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

SOUTHWARK CORPORATION 50% PER CENT REDEMPTABLE STOCK
The Board of Directors of Southwark Corporation Limited, registered in England, No. 1011116, and the City of London, No. 1011116, have decided to issue 100,000 shares of £1 each, 5% per cent, redeemable at the option of the holder, on or before 30th September 1977.

The Board of Directors of Southwark Corporation Limited, registered in England, No. 1011116, and the City of London, No. 1011116, have decided to issue 100,000 shares of £1 each, 5% per cent, redeemable at the option of the holder, on or before 30th September 1977.

COMPANY NOTICES

TASCO MARINE AND FIRE
The Board of Directors of Tasco Marine and Fire Insurance Company Limited, registered in England, No. 1011116, and the City of London, No. 1011116, have decided to issue 100,000 shares of £1 each, 5% per cent, redeemable at the option of the holder, on or before 30th September 1977.

The Board of Directors of Tasco Marine and Fire Insurance Company Limited, registered in England, No. 1011116, and the City of London, No. 1011116, have decided to issue 100,000 shares of £1 each, 5% per cent, redeemable at the option of the holder, on or before 30th September 1977.

DOCK WORK REGULATION ACT

The Dock Work Regulation Act 1947 (No. 111) and the Dock Work Regulation Act 1952 (No. 111) have been amended by the Dock Work Regulation Act 1977 (No. 111). The amendments are contained in the Dock Work Regulation Act 1977 (No. 111).

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A good harvest for stockbrokers too

Friday weather may not have been ideal for a celebration of the year, but August has at least proved to be a vintage for stockbrokers. Turnover for the month (August 8-19) totalled £1,400 million, a full month's turnover, despite the best-ever levels, albeit below the record of £1,839m.

This is largely thanks to the revival in the gilt market that started in the second half of July as interest rates eased. But the equity market has been too badly battered. True, the turnover figure of comfortably over £1,000 million will probably be only the third so far this year, but it will still be a holiday month figure since August

widely the benefits of all this have been another matter. One or two stockbrokers have, perhaps, had their toe-hold in the gilt market past year or so, but, by and large, the market continues to be heavily tilted by some half-dozen firms, and the private investor has risen in grave concern that the equity market may, perhaps, have been more widely spread. But most of the firms feel it is clutching at a belief that a continuing bull will do much more than make the squeeze they are in anything more sporadically less painful.

In the longer-term these diversifications must hold the key to the group's progress rather than the unpredictable and intervention-prone world of casinos and betting shops. But until the end of this year at least the shares at 153p, up 11p yesterday, look reasonable value with a prospective price earnings ratio of 7.2 and a yield of 7 per cent. Continuing support from institutions, some of whom Mr Stein is meeting today, should provide further buoyancy along perhaps with takeover gossip which revives from time to time.

the moment out of 14,000 but, a move to establish a Tote in every town, such as is being proposed, could radically alter the pattern of betting in this country.

Ladbroke's is currently going for fewer, larger and more up-market shops hoping for a bigger share of a saturated market and improved efficiency. Mr Cyril Stein, the chairman, expects the present proportion of



Mr Cyril Stein, chairman of Ladbroke's betting, still contributes around one third of profits.

profits from betting to remain roughly the same with possibly a fall to around 25 per cent next year as diversifications into holidays, retailing and property begin to produce better results.

Mr Stephen Pugh, sales director of Ladbroke's, describes his company's attitude as "trying to treat passengers as humanely as possible at minimum additional cost".

Since it affects more than 70 per cent of their traffic, the operators are being even more severely hit by industrial

Delays caused by the assistant air traffic controllers' strike at the weekend were not, in the event, sufficient to cause widespread cancellations or make large-scale refunds to package holidaymakers necessary. But the immediate cost of providing for the thousands of delayed holidaymakers will still make large inroads into tour operators' slender profit margins.

There is, also, the prospect that the adverse publicity and unhappy experience of air passengers this summer will be reflected in their bookings for next year.

Tour operators were reluctant yesterday to put a figure on the cost of the weekend's delays. It appeared to vary greatly, depending partly on how closely the needs of delayed passengers could be dovetailed with those of passengers outward bound.

For instance, a planeload (typically more than 100 people) held abroad could sleep in the hotel beds, and eat meals intended for travellers delayed in Britain, at no extra cost to the tour operator.

But extra payments are needed to cover the cost of, for example, the children's crèche which Thomson Holidays, an at Luton Airport or the coach tour organized to keep passengers who were delayed at Bristol amused—not to mention the hundreds of hotel rooms booked and paid for by the tour operators in Britain. There is also the hidden cost of the extra staff required to man information services abroad as well as in the United Kingdom.

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Since it affects more than 70 per cent of their traffic, the operators are being even more severely hit by industrial

Air delays strike another blow at tour operators' profits

TOUR OPERATOR PROFITS (30 largest companies)

Year	Turnover	Overall net profit (loss)	Net results as % of turnover
1973	£m	£m	
1974	245.5	(0.4)	(0.2)
1975	225.7	(3.0)	(1.3)
1976	278.3	12.9	4.6
1977	226.1	11.7	5.2

Source: Civil Aviation Authority

action by the Spanish air traffic control staff than they have been by the British assistant air traffic controllers' strike. The effects of aircraft delays are cumulative and the fear is that combined action by French, Spanish and British air traffic control staff could lead to even greater disruption than that experienced so far.

While at this stage no precise figure could be put on the cost of the delays, a spokesman for Thomson Holidays, the biggest of the tour operators, said that it could run into "several hundreds of thousands of pounds, and possibly as much as £1m" for the industry as a whole. This is a substantial figure when total net profits of the industry are of the order of £12m to £13m.

On top of this actual cost comes the likely aftermath of claims by holidaymakers for compensation for their delay. Most tour operators are protected by their exclusion clauses from claims arising from strike action, but these have not been tested in the light of new consumer protection legislation (should the delays be sufficiently extreme to be regarded as a fundamental breach of the contract between tour operator and holidaymaker).

However, the immediate costs alone are likely to be sufficient to create concern among tour operators' accoun-

tants in an already difficult trading year. Industry forecasts are that profits, without the extra cost caused by the delays, will be below last year's level.

Figures from the Civil Aviation Authority, which is responsible for licensing all air travel organizers, show that the 30 largest, responsible for more than three quarters of the business, collectively turned in net profits of £11.7m last year. On a turnover of £326.1m this gave a profit to turnover result of 3.6 per cent.

In 1977, while a full assessment has yet to be made, it is expected that profits will not amount to much more than 1 to 2 per cent of turnover.

Volume of business, although it has not fallen as much as at first feared, is still likely to be below 1976 levels by probably about 10 per cent, though at the same time prompt action in "consolidating", or amalgamating, flights earlier in the year, has brought the vital load factors of aircraft up to fairly high levels.

It was reckoned that tour operators needed to fill their aircraft to about 80 to 85 per cent of capacity for the tour to break even. Loadings above that level yielded the profit. While, at present pricing, the break-even level has nudged upwards, depending on the tour operator, to 82 to 90 per cent, some companies are operating flights at well above that level.

Thomson, for example, says that it has been achieving 95 and 98 per cent loads in July and August and Cosmos is claiming 95 and 96 per cent loads. But much depends on the loads carried during the "shoulder" periods of spring and autumn.

Much also depends on the prices charged to achieve the high loadings. The spate of cheap packages with minimal accommodation launched by Cosmos, Thomson, Laker and others were intended to take up any excess capacity left over from the main tours. As yet there is no sufficient evidence to show how widely they have been used.

But Cosmos's "Cheapies" bookings, although up from 6,235 for the first eight months of 1976 to almost 10,000 this year, are likely to remain a small proportion of the total of more than 300,000 air holidays sold by the company.

On top of the revenue lost through cheap air ticket sales comes the cost of the discounts on standard packages, lavishly promoted earlier in the year when bookings were sluggish. Given stable conditions, a tour operator can afford to discount by £20 or £30 to win the extra 5 per cent of capacity, and still stay in profit, but already this has been far from a stable year and some companies are, no doubt, regretting their discounts.

Probably the biggest single impact on profits was the cost of the no-surcharge guarantees also offered early in the year to win bookings. To balance the expense of buying currency forward—Cosmos alone says it made a forward commitment amounting to £25m—the tour operators were gambling on both an improvement in the exchange rate of sterling and a devaluation of the peseta, the main holiday currency.

The problem is that the

gamble only partly paid off. The industry had been hoping for a peseta devaluation in March. By the time the devaluation actually took place, in mid-July, the gains had been more than wiped out by inflation, which pushed up hotel prices in Spain.

In fact, some tour operators have been struggling to avoid passing on hotel surcharges to visitors. While the no-surcharge guarantees and the drop in volume are the main causes of erosion of profits, a fourth factor has been the lateness of so much of this year's bookings. Traditionally, tour operators have used the cash flow generated from early payments from holidaymakers and credit from hotels and airlines to help finance their activities. But as bookings, and hence payments, become later and suppliers tighten up on the availability of credit, so the tour operators' cash flow has been squeezed.

However, while profit levels have shrunk, they are still likely to remain above the disastrous rates of 1974 (the year in which Court Line failed), when the industry collectively lost £3m.

The real worry at present is about the effect of lack of growth in the volume of sales. After three years of decline, 1977, at perhaps 3.4 million or so inclusive tours, is still well below the peak of almost five million in 1973.

Although scheduled air travel is well on the way to recovery, charter traffic—mainly used for leisure travel—continues to go down. While the scramble for volume at any price which took place among tour operators in the late 1960s came to an abrupt halt with the failure of Court Line, some improvement in growth is needed for margins to compare with their historically low levels.

Patricia Tisdall

Alec Nove

Russia still burdened by a huge trade deficit with the West

After incurring a record deficit in its trade with the West in 1975, it is not surprising that last year the Soviet Union's trade deficit with the West was even larger. It is worth noting that imports from Cuba have now exceeded exports for two consecutive years.

British exports to the Soviet Union have risen much more slowly than Soviet sales here; the biggest rise in British exports was of chemical machinery, while Soviet sales of timber, furs and especially oil rose sharply. Indeed oil sales rose from 1.5 million tons to more than 4 million tons.

Oil was also the main cause of the large rise in Soviet exports to France and Italy. Also noteworthy was the large increase in sales of natural gas to West Germany, Italy, France and Austria, a trend likely to continue.

The enormous Soviet deficit with the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina are due in large part to the very

large purchases of grain that followed the 1975 harvest failure. After the 1976 record harvest the pattern will be different. Soviet purchases of American machinery also rose.

As to the commodity pattern, the most impressive export performance was undoubtedly that of oil from 130 to 143 million tons (including products), and natural gas. The persistent reports to the effect that the Soviet Union will become a net oil importer have proved quite unfounded so far, though no doubt the supply situation is tight and the demands of Comecon allies have not been fully met.

Sales of cars rose by nearly 20 per cent; despite long queues of customers at home, nearly a third of output is exported. An interesting and possibly significant development in the Soviet foreign trade returns has been the elimination by censorship of any reference to specific non-ferrous metals; only the total for all such metals is given. One wonders why. Figures for copper, lead, zinc, etc. appeared regularly hitherto.

On the import side, one notes particularly large increases in imports of equipment for the metallurgical, electrochemical, chemical and timber and paper industries. Surprisingly, imports of machinery for oil processing fell sharply. There was also a small decline in purchases of ships. Imports of pipe have reached close to 3 million tons, reflecting ambitious oil and

gas pipelaying programmes. No doubt because of the burden of huge grain purchases (30,600,000 tons) on the balance of payments, imports of tea, coffee and meat all fell. Imports of a number of consumer goods showed a small decline, though cotton fabric imports rose, purchases from India alone exceeding 70 million metres.

All in all, a better year for Soviet trade, but the balance of payments does not look healthy yet.

The author is in the Department of International Economic Studies at Glasgow University.

SOVIET TRADE BY COUNTRY (Millions of roubles)

	1975	1976	1977
Exports	24,034	26,871	28,022
Imports	26,871	28,022	28,731
TOTAL ALL COUNTRIES	14,584	13,868	16,448
of which:			
USSR	1,931	2,271	2,168
Czechoslovakia	2,019	1,682	2,320
E. Germany	2,850	2,543	2,778
Hungary	1,558	1,818	1,721
Poland	2,447	2,405	2,750
Cuba	1,141	1,448	1,351
China	93	108	180
DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES	6,140	9,704	7,834
of which:			
Finland	918	837	980
France	498	801	774
Great Britain	591	368	825
Italy	638	789	1,069
West Germany	858	1,919	1,089
Japan	669	1,253	1,478
Canada	32	438	42
US	137	1,482	1,998
Australia	2	527	3
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	3,310	2,999	3,740
of which:			
India	282	363	378
Iraq	274	325	342
Malaysia	1	101	4
Syria	99	69	138
Algeria	112	135	131
Egypt	262	448	200
Nigeria	24	84	24
Argentina	11	294	8
Brazil	93	303	78

Sears A tax loss legacy in the US

Such has been the scale of the losses at Sears Holdings' troubled American knitwear subsidiary, Highlander, that their reduction this year and elimination next year had been viewed as of key importance in lifting the group away from the profit plateau where it has languished for the past five years. More recently, though, it has been clear that the drastic surgery of last year—management changes, financial restructuring and plant closures—was not restoring Highlander to health, and Sears has decided to cut its losses. Highlander's assets are being sold to Artrose Inc. in a deal, which will bring nothing to Sears but will transfer Highlander's \$15m of bank borrowings and trade creditors to Artrose. The terminal loss to Sears will be £3m.

For Sears as a group, the United States problem had grown out of all proportion. On turnover of less than £30m, Highlander lost £10m last year, largely as a result of a painful £9m cut back in stocks. In the context of group turnover of £793m, Highlander was a minnow, but its losses were very substantial indeed in relation to group profits of £42.5m.

The losses are not being eliminated in quite the anticipated manner, but Highlander will at least leave some residual benefits for Sears. The company itself has not been sold, only its assets. This means that its £20m of tax losses will remain with Sears to be offset against future profits. At present Sears is not in a position to make very rapid use of these tax losses. Its other main American business, Consolidated Laundries, made a profit last year of only \$750,000, although a further knitwear business, which made \$1m last year, has recently been acquired. So there is a strong case for Sears to expand further in the United States, and its own thinking was evident enough in its recent abortive approach to buy a stake in Avis. That approach has brought a number of other interesting propositions. Sears' way and the group is evidently in a receptive mood.

SOVIET EXPORTS OF OIL & OIL PRODUCTS (principal markets)

	1975	1976
Total	130,350	148,514
Czechoslovakia	15,965	17,233
E. Germany	14,952	16,766
Poland	16,766	14,073
Italy	5,883	11,982
Bulgaria	11,553	11,868
Finland	8,768	9,820
Cuba	8,080	8,809
Hungary	7,535	8,433
West Germany	7,634	7,132
France	3,307	5,782
USSR	4,444	4,558
Great Britain	1,503	4,051
Sweden	3,450	2,729
Netherlands	3,090	2,674
Belgium	1,255	2,062
Spain	1,724	2,002

Business Diary: CPSA's Thomas • Plastics with a past

Trades Union Congress closer; Ken Thomas, secretary of the Civil Services Association, wondering whether the disruption caused by traffic control members him any good in next general council election. (affable) Welshman, was pipped at the post by Tony Christopher, over both the general seat and the general seat of the Inland Staff Federation on account of Cyril Plant. (affable) Welshman, was pipped at the post by Tony Christopher, over both the general seat and the general seat of the Inland Staff Federation on account of Cyril Plant.



Ken Thomas

gifted Bill Kendall, never got it because the biggest Civil Service union was always suspected of being too much like a trade union. Now that collective bargaining is fashionable once more maybe Thomas will benefit by the votes of workers fed up with pay restraint.

John Hayes, Mike Butler and Paul Triton may be in on the ground floor as a new collecting craze is born. All three have had a hand in a display of plastics and antiques which British Industrial Plastics is organising at the International Plastics and Rubber Exhibition in the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham between September 15 and 23.

While I have seen more than my fill of plastic reproductions of antiques, I was surprised to learn from Butler that there are synthetic plastics objects that are in themselves antique in the sense of being more than 100 years old.

Indeed, Butler says, one Alexander Parkes exhibited a material called Parkesine at the Great Exhibition of 1851. As celluloid, the material was commercially developed by Daniel Spill in the 1870s.

The earliest pieces of synthetic plastic were found in 1860s Parkesine, including a medal from the Marine Assurance Company of Hull and London.

Hayes, Butler and Triton have borrowed objects from BIP, the Plastics and Rubber Institute and from the few private collectors, such as former BIP director Walter Swallow.

They also went hunting in antique shops: Butler, for instance, found a pre-1914 War celloscope acetate tray at 75p. Antiques magazines, he reports, are beginning to show interest in this new—or not so new—field.

About 1,500 of Shalkee Corporation's 100,000 worldwide distributors are in London this week for a sales convention, costing \$1m.

They will—among other things—join in company songs like "I Can, You Can, We Can—The Shalkee Way". The company's range of organic and biodegradable products, apply the Golden Rule ("Do unto others as you would have them do unto you") and use Thoughtfulness, as advocated by Dr Forrest C. Shalkee, the company's founder.

Such evangelism has been important to the direct sales success of Shalkee, which is listed this month for the first time on the New York stock

exchange. Gary Shansby, Shalkee's president, admits that he had misgivings about joining the company two years ago.

He discovered, however, that the products—ranging from household cleaners, and food supplements to an organic toothpaste—were good; the direct sales operation was generous and fair, and the evangelistic style, far from being a "gimmick", really worked.

Moreover, it is working in Britain. Shalkee now has offices and warehouses and a sales force of more than 1,000. Now, the operation here breaks even—worldwide turnover is some \$200,000—but Shansby sees Britain as a potential growth area.

"The economic situation could help us. People may be looking for ways to supplement their incomes and, if they are not able to eat as well as previously, they may wish to supplement their diets."

Among the 240 pages of statistical information crammed in the newly published General Household Survey, 1974 is a table entitled "Reasons for leaving last job by sex". What ever popular mythology may say, sex is evidently not the most popular way to go. Of the males involved, 46 per cent went because they were sacked or made redundant and 14 per cent because they became ill, although 15 per cent went for "domestic reasons, pregnancy or other."

A poll at the J. Paul Getty Museum at Malibu, near Los Angeles, shows that the most popular painting there is not

one of the works of those old favourites Rembrandt, Rubens or Degas, but the "Spring" of the Anglo-Dutch artist Alma-Tadema. And thereby hangs a tale.

The museum bought the painting, which is of a Roman procession in honour of St Cerealis, in 1972, for a then record price for an Alma-Tadema.

Unknown to the museum's agents, they were up against the television producer, Allan Funt, who is associated with what I believe to be possibly the worst television programme ever devised, *Camdell Camera*.

Funt, having been advised that Alma-Tadema was the world's worst painter, set about collecting him until his office and apartment in New York were lined with Alma-Tademas.

Since 1972, however, Funt has been obliged to part with many of his pictures, although some of them, smaller than "Spring", have fetched prices higher than that paid by the Getty museum in 1972.

It is peculiarly fitting that Alma-Tadema should be so popular in Los Angeles—whose most celebrated suburb is Hollywood—since the painter's composition and colours influenced many directors of the early cinema. "Spring" itself looks like an elaborate rendering of a scene from Cecil B. de Mille.

Cruising down the Thames at Maidenhead over the holiday, I was amused to find a young motor boat grandiloquently named *Yellow Shark*. Hard by was a much bigger craft called *Delusions of Grandeur*.

electrocomponents limited

Bigger market share and wider product range during 1976/77 brings another record year

Turnover increased 44% to £22.8m

Exports up by 31.5% to £1.2m

Profits up from £2.85m to £4.54m

Earnings per share increased from 13.64p to 21.75p

Dividends for year 4.5256p—the maximum permitted

"Results for 1976/77 are quite exceptional. Keen prices and outstanding stock availability were again important factors in our success. The current year shows further progress, indicating even better results to come."

R. A. MARLER, Chairman

Copies of the full Report and Accounts for year to 31st March 1977 can be obtained from the Secretary, Electrocomponents Limited, 13-17 Epworth Street, London, EC2P 2HA.

Britain's biggest electronic components distributor

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Gilts upturn mirrored in leading equities

The market is on its way up again. Whether the FT Index will hit the 500 target in this account remains to be seen but, now that the bank holiday is over, buyers are returning.

Business has been somewhat slow to revive—bargains yesterday were still at a near basement level of 4,852—but many of the leaders were emphatically back in favour.

Gilt-edged securities, too, made solid headway with the help of the market's confidence in a major rise in official reserves when the statistics are unveiled at the end of the week. Gains of a ½ were recorded in mediums while longs went somewhat better with rises of as much as ½.

Wood Bastow rose 3p to 107½. A fortnight ago they were only 90p. Bastow, in corsets to swimwear, is a Marks & Spencer supplier, as in Nottingham Manufacturing which has built up its Bastow stake to just under 30 per cent. Figures for the year to June 30, due soon could show a rise from £760,000 to £1.2m or so, or enough to keep the shares on the boil. Marks suppliers have been reporting well recently.

The upturn in Government stocks was mirrored in equities. After a slight release at noon, the market demonstrated its ability to absorb any setback and, despite some profit taking, the FT Index powered on to a 6.4 rise to 490.9 at the close for a 3.2 climb on the account so far. After so much desultory

trading last week, 500 and beyond suddenly seems not so far away.

The outstanding share of the day was undoubtedly Becham Group. The dividend hole is not far from buyers' thoughts and the shares have already withstood profit-taking on this score. Uppermost on dealers' minds yesterday, however, was the rumour of an attractive share-splitting operation. The group officially denied that it had taken any steps in this direction but made it clear that the exercise has its attractions. The shares jumped 18p to 620p.

But Becham's pre-eminence was seriously rivalled in other quarters and, all in all, the officially sanctioning of a new firm of stockbrokers, Kent, East, Newton & Co, came at an auspicious moment.

Fisons, heped by press comment, came up strongly with a 15p rise to 350p and other leaders followed suit. Glaxo

put on 7p to 592p while Unilever added 8p to 522p.

ICI, of course, will help to set the tone when it reports second-quarter earnings tomorrow. The figures are expected to look very favourable but it seems that several jobs are more optimistic than the market as a whole and have gone long of the stock. The shares climbed 5p to 412p.

Further consideration of last week's somewhat surprisingly buoyant results from Associated Portland Cement gave the shares another 5p rise to 239p.

Decca continues to feature as a bid stock. Rumours abound although the identity of any bidder, the likely timing of any approach and its chance of success are still shrouded in the mists of buyers' imaginations. Nonetheless, the "A" shares were hoisted another 10p to 395p.

The High Street this autumn

is widely expected to enjoy a buying spree. The Chancellor is expected to ease things are hoped at the forthcoming sales. Scottish & Universal Investments was a firm spot with a 3p gain to 88p.

Boots went even better with an 8p hike to 219p while W. H. Smith "A" capped the lot and advanced 15p to 705p. Overall, a happy time for the retailers.

There is little evidence, as yet, that enthusiasm has spilled over in the "second liners". Several stocks did shine, however, with the help of weekend press tips. Notable among these were Ega Holdings where the shares advanced to 105p on conjecture of what the foreshadowed bid, if it comes, will comprise. Common Brothers stood out in shipings and rose to 225p after the stake held by Swan Hunter had been highlighted. Lavtex was another favourite with a 12p gain to 48p. The

big action that did emerge was the approach by Derritron for British Electronic whose shares jumped 6p to 28p.

Insurance issues were mostly ahead where changed with Sun Alliance and Eagle Star to the fore after rises of 5p to 525p and 4p to 472p respectively. But property counters and banks were generally quiet.

Crane Fruehauf is now, as indicated here last week, open to a second bid from the US Fruehauf Corporation. Crane's shares hardened a further 1p to 55p yesterday. Those who favour them argue that they have only 5p or at most 10p of downside in them even after a good rise, and that the Americans may be forced to offer at least 60 and maybe 65p. Crane would duly have to make a good defence (profits this year could rise from £15m to £3m) and quite possibly turn to another group if the US concern looked menacing.

Companies reporting yesterday mostly went well. Ladbroke Group was right up to best unofficial forecasts and the shares improved 1p to 153p. Linford, which is due to report today, added 7p to 290p and dealers were looking ahead to the Thomas Jordan figures by putting the shares up 6p to 41p.

Very few stocks suffered, but Myson reacted a further 1½p to 46p as a result of last week's gloomy statement and BP was a depressed spot in a unified oil pinch and fell 4p to 892p.

CRA stays cautious after strong first-half

By Desmond Quigley

Consolidated net earnings of Constable Robinson of Australia, the Australian arm of the United Kingdom mining house Rio Tinto-Zinc, rose 54 per cent from \$A28.8m to \$A44.4m (about £28.25m) in the first-half to end June.

The increase was achieved despite a rise of only 15 per cent to \$A515m in the value of external sales.

The interim dividend has been increased from 3.5 cents to 4.5 cents a share. The company, in its interim statement, states that the prospects for the remainder of the year must be viewed with caution because world metal markets are generally showing signs of weakness.

A major boost for CRA, in which RIZ has a 72.6 per cent interest, came from its 45 per cent owned Constalco which also reported its half-year results yesterday which showed a net profit increase from \$A8.46m to \$A20m. The interim dividend has been increased from 2.75 cents to 5 cents a share.

CRA has repeated that Marv Kibelea Uranium's finances "remain extremely critical" and revealed that yesterday it agreed to advance a further \$A2.8m in short-term loans to MKU. The amount advanced would allow CRA to exercise an option to purchase any available U308 if it so desires under an agreement reached earlier this year.

US insurance boom gives stimulus to London Utd Invs

By Alison Mitchell

The growth of American insurance business available to the London market has provided a healthy filip to the profits of London United Investments.

The investment holding company, which deals almost exclusively with insurance and agency business, has seen its results more than double in the first six months of this year. And Sir George Bolton, chairman, is confident that there is still a lot more to come.

He tells shareholders that full year profits will show a substantial increase over the 1976 level of £1.7m.

In the half-year to June 30, "Loonies" as the group is familiarly known, made a pre-tax profit of £1.24m, compared with £498,000 previously. Turnover rose from £3.3m to £5.9m in the period.

All divisions, including the group's property offshore Reinsurance Estates, contributed to the improvement, but the bulk of the upturn came from the insurance side.

H. S. Weavers (Underwriting) Agencies, which operates in the United States casualty business market saw an upturn both in the volume of insurance and the amounts involved. "This United States business continues to grow in a profitable manner", says the chairman.

Subsidiary Walbrook Insurance, a member of the underwriting syndicate, also stepped up its contribution in the six months. Because the eased business being handled increased business being handled, the capital of Walbrook has been increased by £500,000 to £3m. Total capital reserves now amount to £3.98m.

More and more of the group's resources are being concentrated on insurance related activities. Since its 1972 purchase of H. S. Weavers the group has been building up this side of the business.

In view of the confident forecast of the chairman, the directors expect to pay a maximum final dividend of 3.18p gross.

KLK buys more of Yule Catto

Fears that Yule Catto's failure to work out a partnership with Kuria Lumpur Kepong last May would mean that KLK's 20 per cent stake might cast a shadow on its earnings.

KLK, registered in Britain but domiciled in Malaysia for tax, has told Yule Catto through N. M. Rothschild that it has bought a further 75,000 shares, bringing its holding to 22.6 per cent.

Yule is a rubber, oil palm and plastics group with a marina at Cobbs Quay in Poole and a property portfolio. Its recent talks with KLK reflected Malaysia's New Economic Policy and its requirements to inject Malaysian capital into the group.

Meanwhile Yule now reports that profits for the year to October 31 should easily beat July's forecast of a second six months "as good as" as the £943,000 before tax made in the first half year. In the same months the year before they were only £377,000.

For good measure Lord Catto and his colleagues add: "The group is exceedingly pleased for expansion both in the United Kingdom and overseas." Even so the shares rested at 55p.

Brammer quickens growth rate

By Ashley Druker

In line with the buoyant trading reported at the time of the rights issue early last month, H. Brammer, emerges from the opening half to June 30 confirming the continuing progress and growth envisaged in the 1976 annual report. Sales increased by 32.3 per cent to £13.34m and pre-tax profit by 40.9 per cent to £2m—the first time this barrier has been passed in a half-year. Trading profit rose 30.5 per cent, indicating that pressure on margins has been contained. This was achieved in spite of prevailing inflationary and competitive conditions, says Mr J. B. Head, chairman.

The attributable for the latter half rose from £682,000 to £962,000 and earnings a share from 5.1p to 6.5p. The interim dividend is a same-again 2.1p gross. In July, with the rights issue, Brammer forecast a total dividend in the half-year. Trading profit rose 30.5 per cent, indicating that pressure on margins has been contained. This was achieved in spite of prevailing inflationary and competitive conditions, says Mr J. B. Head, chairman.

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Derritron approach for Brit Electronics likely

Electronic equipment manufacturer and marketer Derritron, may make an offer of over 25p a share for British Electronic Controls.

In July a company owned by the three executive directors of BEC made a £875,000 bid for BEC, offering shareholders 23p a share and the possible Derritron take-over announced by Seton Trust, would come under this scheme of arrangement.

Appropriate proposals would also be made to the holders of the convertible unsecured loan stock.

Subject to the outcome of certain negotiations by Derritron, full particulars of the proposed offer will be announced by next Monday.

In the six months to February 11 last, BEC made a pre-tax loss of £36,000.

Samuelson move in mopping-up

The mystery surrounding the fate of the minority shareholders in Samuelson Film Service appears to be clearing slightly.

Following an announcement in December that the Samuelson family interests were thinking of bidding for the 20 per cent of the group they did not already hold, there has been little evident action on the subject.

However the directors disclosed to shareholders yesterday that they are applying to the Inland Revenue for a revenue clearance which may be necessary to finance such a mopping-up operation. As such, the present uncertainties should be resolved, one way or the other, over the next couple of months.

Interest rate low point early in 1978

Short-term interest rates should continue to fall for the rest of the year, reaching a low

point in the first quarter of 1978, according to stockbrokers James Capel's latest survey of the institutional flow of funds.

Gilt and equity markets are expected to continue to benefit from this trend for some months yet, but the brokers give a warning that the size of the government funding requirement in 1978-79 will bank the decline in interest rates thereafter. The degree of any reversal will depend on the development of government economic policy.

Double-up filip by Coral's Centre hotels

Centre Hotels (Cranston), which was recently taken over by Coral Leisure, the bingo, bookmaking and casino group, following a £16m bid, has doubled pre-tax profits to £1.1m in the year to April.

Turnover jumped from £16.2m to £23.8m. It is expected that pre-tax profits for the current year will be appreciably higher.

Although Centre Hotels results were not included in Coral's interim figures, they are expected to give filip to those for the full year.

Gresham Inv set for further growth

A year of further consolidation leaves Gresham Investment Trust with increased pre-tax profits of £716,000 for the 12 months to March 31 last compared with a previous £675,000. However Mr Peter Wreford, chairman, points out that had the attributable earnings of companies where the group has a 20 per cent plus interest been included, group pre-tax profit would have been boosted to just over £1m.

Gresham is now in a strong financial position to take advantage of an increase in business and, barring accidents, Mr Wreford predicts a further increase in profits in the current year.

Elec'components open well

Further progress is reported in the current year by Electrocomponents after "quite exceptional" results for the 12 months to end-March. Mr R. A. Marler, chairman, says his board is confident that full-term results will once again be an "enjoyable pleasure" to report.

This buoyancy is underpinned by planned investment in extra premises, further computerization and higher investment in stock. Meanwhile, the board is to recommend an increase in dividend of £34,000. Mr D. Turner, who continues as an agent for the next six months. This follows a board ruling on compulsory retirement at aged 60.

Briefly

LOCAL AUTHORITIES
Local authority rate remains unchanged at 84 per cent. Those seeking funds include Edinburgh, Sheffield, Strathclyde and Leicestershire.

HAWKER-GARDNER
Offer on behalf of Hawker Siddeley to buy L. Gardner says open until further notice. Share alternative closed yesterday.

KROUCH GROUP
Chairman reports in annual statement that building division of group "maintained profit earning" but quarrying company made large loss. Loss deemed exceptional. Company well organized to deal with tough trading.

How to clear that expansion bottleneck, without upsetting your finance director



A successful and expanding company often reaches a stage when, for want of finance, it is restrained by an expansion bottleneck. Sometimes you just know you could be bigger and better if only you could clear that bottleneck. You cannot go on passing up major opportunities for growth forever, so something has to change.

However, changes cost money, and where money is concerned your finance director often has the last word.

But maybe Midland Bank can help you with a medium term loan. We're ready to lend almost any reasonable amount for any reasonable business purpose to credit-worthy customers. You can pay over seven years—sometimes even longer. And if you are not already banking with the Midland you may still find it worth your while to talk to us.

You pay interest, at competitive rates, only on the reducing balance and you can adapt repayments to suit your needs.

Best of all, once arranged, and provided you meet the terms of the agreement, your loan will not be called in. So you can plan your expansion with confidence.

Discuss your problems with us. Medium term loans are just one of many financial services that Midland Bank Group offers you to help make business more profitable.

Your local Midland Bank branch manager can also arrange instalment finance, leasing, factoring, and a number of export and international services, including export finance in sterling and other currencies and the discounting of bills. He can arrange, too, merchant banking facilities which include the raising of long-term and share capital, and finance for growing companies.

Let us help you. There's a whole range of services, in fact, and all available in the simple way you're used to—through your local bank. Call in soon at any of 2,600 Midland Bank branches and talk to the manager.



Medium Term Loans from
Midland Bank

Midland Bank Limited

Commodities

[illegible]

138.50: May, \$128.00-24.1
 6150.30-31.00. Oct. 4134.8
 Dec. 4138.50-42.90. Sales: 1.5

SOYABEANS MEAL was steady, while
ALFA LACTALBUMIN was up 1¢. Other
protein concentrates were steady. **WHEAT**
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No. 2 soft, 6100-18; GD, 6099-18;
No. 3 soft, 6080-18; GD, 6079-18;
No. 4 soft, 6060-18; GD, 6059-18;
No. 5 soft, 6040-18; GD, 6039-18;
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No. 17 soft, 5800-18; GD, 5799-18;
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No. 19 soft, 5760-18; GD, 5759-18;
No. 20 soft, 5740-18; GD, 5739-18;
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No. 28 soft, 5580-18; GD, 5579-18;
No. 29 soft, 5560-18; GD, 5559-18;
No. 30 soft, 5540-18; GD, 5539-18;
No. 31 soft, 5520-18; GD, 5519-18;
No. 32 soft, 5500-18; GD, 5499-18;
No. 33 soft, 5480-18; GD, 5479-18;
No. 34 soft, 5460-18; GD, 5459-18;
No. 35 soft, 5440-18; GD, 5439-18;
No. 36 soft, 5420-18; GD, 5419-18;
No. 37 soft, 5400-18; GD, 5399-18;
No. 38 soft, 5380-18; GD, 5379-18;
No. 39 soft, 5360-18; GD, 5359-18;
No. 40 soft, 5340-18; GD, 5339-18;
No. 41 soft, 5320-18; GD, 5319-18;
No. 42 soft, 5300-18; GD, 5299-18;
No. 43 soft, 5280-18; GD, 5279-18;
No. 44 soft, 5260-18; GD, 5259-18;
No. 45 soft, 5240-18; GD, 5239-18;
No. 46 soft, 5220-18; GD, 5219-18;
No. 47 soft, 5200-18; GD, 5199-18;
No. 48 soft, 5180-18; GD, 5179-18;
No. 49 soft, 5160-18; GD, 5159-18;
No. 50 soft, 5140-18; GD, 5139-18;
No. 51 soft, 5120-18; GD, 5119-18;
No. 52 soft, 5100-18; GD, 5099-18;
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No. 67 soft, 4800-18; GD, 4799-18;
No. 68 soft, 4780-18; GD, 4779-18;
No. 69 soft, 4760-18; GD, 4759-18;
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No. 71 soft, 4720-18; GD, 4719-18;
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No. 73 soft, 4680-18; GD, 4679-18;
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No. 76 soft, 4620-18; GD, 4619-18;
No. 77 soft, 4600-18; GD, 4599-18;
No. 78 soft, 4580-18; GD, 4579-18;
No. 79 soft, 4560-18; GD, 4559-18;
No. 80 soft, 4540-18; GD, 4539-18;
No. 81 soft, 4520-18; GD, 4519-18;
No. 82 soft, 4500-18; GD, 4499-18;
No. 83 soft, 4480-18; GD, 4479-18;
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No. 86 soft, 4420-18; GD, 4419-18;
No. 87 soft, 4400-18; GD, 4399-18;
No. 88 soft, 4380-18; GD, 4379-18;
No. 89 soft, 4360-18; GD, 4359-18;
No. 90 soft, 4340-18; GD, 4339-18;
No. 91 soft, 4320-18; GD, 4319-18;
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No. 94 soft, 4260-18; GD, 4259-18;
No. 95 soft, 4240-18; GD, 4239-18;
No. 96 soft, 4220-18; GD, 4219-18;
No. 97 soft, 4200-18; GD, 4199-18;
No. 98 soft, 4180-18; GD, 4179-18;
No. 99 soft, 4160-18; GD, 4159-18;
No. 100 soft, 4140-18; GD, 4139-18;
No. 101 soft, 4120-18; GD, 4119-18;
No. 102 soft, 4100-18; GD, 4099-18;
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No. 104 soft, 4060-18; GD, 4059-18;
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No. 106 soft, 4020-18; GD, 4019-18;
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No. 108 soft, 3980-18; GD, 3979-18;
No. 109 soft, 3960-18; GD, 3959-18;
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No. 112 soft, 3900-18; GD, 3899-18;
No. 113 soft, 3880-18; GD, 3879-18;
No. 114 soft, 3860-18; GD, 3859-18;
No. 115 soft, 3840-18; GD, 3839-18;
No. 116 soft, 3820-18; GD, 3819-18;
No. 117 soft, 3800-18; GD, 3799-18;
No. 118 soft, 3780-18; GD, 3779-18;
No. 119 soft, 3760-18; GD, 3759-18;
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No. 121 soft, 3720-18; GD, 3719-18;
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No. 123 soft, 3680-18; GD, 3679-18;
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No. 125 soft, 3640-18; GD, 3639-18;
No. 126 soft, 3620-18; GD, 3619-18;
No. 127 soft, 3600-18; GD, 3599-18;
No. 128 soft, 3580-18; GD, 3579-18;
No. 129 soft, 3560-18; GD, 3559-18;
No. 130 soft, 3540-18; GD, 3539-18;
No. 131 soft, 3520-18; GD, 3519-18;
No. 132 soft, 3500-18; GD, 3499-18;
No. 133 soft, 3480-18; GD, 3479-18;
No. 134 soft, 3460-18; GD, 3459-18;
No. 135 soft, 3440-18; GD, 3439-18;
No. 136 soft, 3420-18; GD, 3419-18;
No. 137 soft, 3400-18; GD, 3399-18;
No. 138 soft, 3380-18; GD, 3379-18;
No. 139 soft, 3360-

Foreign Exchange

Nervous conditions prevailed throughout yesterday's foreign exchange session following the Canadian dollar devaluation of 10 per cent of the week-end. Although movements in this sector were in line with the depreciation made in London, when the central bank's trading centres were open, the atmosphere was unsettled in the absence of the London wire. Dealings were resumed after the Bank Holiday.

The pound sterling benefited in terms of the Canadian currencies and also against other major currencies. In dollar terms sterling rose to 1.0425, a record, and closed three points up at \$1742.3.

Seeding's effective exchange rate was made useful by the dollar closing at 62.0 compared with 61.2.

Gold rose \$1.25 an ounce to \$350.00.

Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on a very large scale to relieve a shortage of fresh funds on London. Authorities bought a small amount of local authority bills and a small amount of Treasury bills directly from the discount houses. They also lent a moderate sum—about £12 million—to one or two houses.

Earlier in the session, it had increased the amount of funds it might prove to be in adequate supply, but a swing on the Treasury market had depressed the price of the market of liquidity.

As one stage, money was offered at a rate of 12 per cent of 5 per cent but in the tighter conditions of the later stages, closing at 12 per cent. The authorities saw some difficulty, and houses were paying 6½ per cent to 7 per cent. The rate was then raised to 12 per cent went up to 17 per cent bid, though the help that the authorities had given was not so much as appeared to have been overdone and full bank balances seemed likely to be available by Wednesday. The day's adverse factors included slightly run-downed Treasury bills, a fairly quiet weekend from last Friday, a fairly large Treasury Bill take-up (withholding of £100 million for four days instead of five).

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates August 30	Market rates August 30
New York	\$1.141-1425	\$1.141-1425
Montreal	\$1.141-1425	\$1.141-1425
Atlantic	4.24-30.70	4.24-30.70
London	62.18-69	62.18-69
Canada	10.76-80.40	10.76-80.40
Frankfurt	4.06-40.00	4.06-40.00
Japan	69.00-70.00	69.00-70.00
Madrid	147.70-4.00	147.70-4.00
Algeria	1876-30.00	1876-30.00
Osaka	10.90-94.00	10.90-94.00
Paris	4.44-4.44	4.44-4.44
Stockholm	4.44-4.44	4.44-4.44
Tokyo	4.44-4.44	4.44-4.44
Vienna	20.00-4.00	20.00-4.00
Zurich	4.44-4.44	4.44-4.44

Extensive list of rates and weights for various commodities. For Sept. 1, 1951, see page 17.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England - Minimum Loan Limit 20%
 (Last changed in 1971)
 (Cash Ratio 10%)
 Discount Rate 10%
 Overnight Rate 10%
 100% with French Franc

TEASURY RATE ROW:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1 MONTH	5 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2
3 MONTH	5 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2
6 MONTH	5 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2
1 YEAR	5 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2

Prime Bank Rate, 1% (Under 10%)

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
3 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
6 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
1 YEAR	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2

Local Authority Bonds

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
3 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
6 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
1 YEAR	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2

Secondary 1/2% CD Rates

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
3 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
6 MONTH	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2
1 YEAR	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	11 1/2

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	11-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Montreal	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Amsterdam	11-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Brussels	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Frankfurt	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
London	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Madrid	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Milan	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Oslo	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Paris	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Stockholm	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Vienna	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem
Zurich	10-10 1/2 prem	10-10 1/2 prem

200: 2
200: 2

INTERBANK MARKETING

Overnight	Open 8:00	Close 8:00
1 MONTH	8:00	8 MONTHS 7:00
3 MONTHS 6:00		12 MONTHS 5:00

First Class Finance Marketing Rates

3 MONTHS 7:00	6 MONTHS 7:00
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Finance House Bank House

Extracellular deposits (%) calc
6-9, 51-63; this month, 6-64;

Gold
Gold (spot) 100: \$145.05 100 ounces: 722.
\$144.12
Sovereigns (per ounce non-resident): \$150.22
(\$50.00): residents: \$150.25-152.25 (\$50.25-57.25).
Sovereigns (new): non-resident: \$47.50-47.50
(\$47.25-48.25): residents: \$47.75-48.75 (\$47.50-
50.25)

Recent Issues

[illegible]**Florida Nat Bank**

Miami.—The directors of Florida National Bank have agreed to try to buy \$42m of stock in the bank's holding company from the Alfred I. Dupont estate.

The 233 million shares, representing a 24.9 per cent interest in Florida National Bank, are being held in trust the Federal Reserve Board has set an October 1 deadline for action on a sale by the Dupont estate.

Florida national's directors previously decided to stay away from the purchase. They thought that the Federal Reserve would object to the sale. In a statement, they declared that they will make "every effort" to obtain its approval. The stock has been a subject of debate for years, since Congress ordered the estate to divest itself of all bank interests and its banking holdings. —AP—Dow Jones

Dutch bid possible

Amsterdam. — Koninklijke Frisdranken Industrie Winters Bv of Maarheze, Noord-Brabant, said that it is holding talks with Beatrice Foods of Chicago buying a majority stake in the Dutch soft drinks group. Winters, employing 200, is distributor and bottler of several soft drinks.

Business appointments

Mr R. Pritchard becomes BAT director

Mr R. J. Pritchard has been made a director of British-American Tobacco.

Mr. J. H. Paul has become chairman of Stuart Crystal succeeding Mr W. E. C. Stuart who has retired.

Mr. A. de Mel has been made a director and Mr R. Murugiah deputy director of the Ceylon Investment Holdings.

Mr Leo Kullrich has become a director of Hill (United Kingdom) and is succeeded as managing director of Pacific Sales Corporation by Mr. J. H. Lawrence. Mr Michael Rowlings joins the board of Pacific Sales.

Mr Thomas Wainwright has been elected governor and deputy governor of the British Linen Bank.

Mr. J. H. Wainwright has been made managing director of the Lummus Company, succeeding Mr. C. Wise, who remains chairman.

Mr. J. D. Wilson, founder and senior partner of J. Wilson & Partners, has become managing director of John Derek Wilson & Partners, a new firm (formed by Mr. J. D. Wilson and Mr. J. H. Wainwright) to carry on the practice.

Link Base Rates

gs Bank	8%
licated Credits	8%
London Secs	8%
are & Co ..	8%
s Bank	8%
nd Bank	8%
estminster ..	8%
insster Acc's	8%
ry Trust	11%
.....	8%
ms and Glyn's	8%

11. DIVIDEND 1977

**Commercial Banking
Company of Sydney
Limited**
Incorporated in New South Wales
I hereby give notice that the
payment of dividend has been
declared by the Directors of the
Company and the Register of Members
will be closed from 30th September
1977 to 7th October 1977
inclusive.
Applications for registration prior to
this date must be lodged before
Monday, 19th September.
J. E. SEARLE
Chief Manager, London

H. J. WOODWARD & CO. LIMITED

177	Company
27	Airsprung Ord
100	Airsprung 18½
25	Armitage & Rh
105	Bardon Hill
95	Deborah Ord
104	Deborah 17½
120	Frederick Park
45	Henry Sykes
36	Jackson Group
55	James Burrough
188	Robert Jenkins
8	Twynlock Ord
54	Twynlock 12%
51	Unlock Holding
65	Walter Alwain

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Buyers return

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	2036-37	2037-38	2038-39	2039-40	2040-41	2041-42	2042-43	2043-44	2044-45	2045-46	2046-47	2047-48	2048-49	2049-50	2050-51	2051-52	2052-53	2053-54	2054-55	2055-56	2056-57	2057-58	2058-59	2059-60	2060-61	2061-62	2062-63	2063-64	2064-65	2065-66	2066-67	2067-68	2068-69	2069-70	2070-71	2071-72	2072-73	2073-74	2074-75	2075-76	2076-77	2077-78	2078-79	2079-80	2080-81	2081-82	2082-83	2083-84	2084-85	2085-86	2086-87	2087-88	2088-89	2089-90	2090-91	2091-92	2092-93	2093-94	2094-95	2095-96	2096-97	2097-98	2098-99	2099-00	2100-01	2101-02	2102-03	2103-04	2104-05	2105-06	2106-07	2107-08	2108-09	2109-10	2110-11	2111-12	2112-13	2113-14	2114-15	2115-16	2116-17	2117-18	2118-19	2119-20	2120-21	2121-22	2122-23	2123-24	2124-25	2125-26	2126-27	2127-28	2128-29	2129-30	2130-31	2131-32	2132-33	2133-34	2134-35	2135-36	2136-37	2137-38	2138-39	2139-40	2140-41	2141-42	2142-43	2143-44	2144-45	2145-46	2146-47	2147-48	2148-49	2149-50	2150-51	2151-52	2152-53	2153-54	2154-55	2155-56	2156-57	2157-58	2158-59	2159-60	2160-61	2161-62	2162-63	2163-64	2164-65	2165-66	2166-67	2167-68	2168-69	2169-70	2170-71	2171-72	2172-73	2173-74	2174-75	2175-76	2176-77	2177-78	2178-79	2179-80	2180-81	2181-82	2182-83	2183-84	2184-85	2185-86	2186-87	2187-88	2188-89	2189-90	2190-91	2191-92	2192-93	2193-94	2194-95	2195-96	2196-97	2197-98	2198-99	2199-00	2200-01	2201-02	2202-03	2203-04	2204-05	2205-06	2206-07	2207-08	2208-09	2209-10	2210-11	2211-12	2212-13	2213-14	2214-15	2215-16	2216-17	2217-18	2218-19	2219-20	2220-21	2221-22	2222-23	2223-24	2224-25	2225-26	2226-27	2227-28	2228-29	2229-30	2230-31	2231-32	2232-33	2233-34	2234-35	2235-36	2236-37	2237-38	2238-39	2239-40	2240-41	2241-42	2242-43	2243-44	2244-45	2245-46	2246-47	2247-48	2248-49	2249-50	2250-51	2251-52	2252-53	2253-54	2254-55	2255-56	2256-57	2257-58	2258-59	2259-60	2260-61	2261-62	2262-63	2263-64	2264-65	2265-66	2266-67	2267-68	2268-69	2269-70	2270-71	2271-72	2272-73	2273-74	2274-75	2275-76	2276-77	2277-78	2278-79	2279-80	2280-81	2281-82	2282-83	2283-84	2284-85	2285-86	2286-87	2287-88	2288-89	2289-90	2290-91	2291-92	2292-93	2293-94	2294-95	2295-96	2296-97	2297-98	2298-99	2299-00	2300-01	2301-02	2302-03	2303-04	2304-05	2305-06	2306-07	2307-08	2308-09	2309-10	2310-11	2311-12	2312-13	2313-14	2314-15	2315-16	2316-17	2317-18	2318-19	2319-20	2320-21	2321-22	2322-23	2323-24	2324-25	2325-26	2326-27	2327-28	2328-29	2329-30	2330-31	2331-32	2332-33	2333-34	2334-35	2335-36	2336-37	2337-38	2338-39	2339-40	2340-41	2341-42	2342-43	2343-44	2344-45	2345-46	2346-47	2347-48	2348-49	2349-50	2350-51	2351-52	2352-53	2353-54	2354-55	2355-56	2356-57	2357-58	2358-59	2359-60	2360-61	2361-62	2362-63	2363-64	2364-65	2365-66	2366-67	2367-68	2368-69	2369-70	2370-71	2371-72	2372-73	2373-74	2374-75	2375-76	2376-77	2377-78	2378-79	2379-80	2380-81	2381-82	2382-83	2383-84	2384-85	2385-86	2386-87	2387-88	2388-89	2389-90	2390-91	2391-92	2392-93	2393-94	2394-95	2395-96	2396-97	2397-98	2398-99	2399-00	2400-01	2401-02	2402-03	2403-04	2404-05	2405-06	2406-07	2407-08	2408-09	2409-10	2410-11	2411-12	2412-13	2413-14	2414-15	2415-16	2416-17	2417-18	2418-19	2419-20	2420-21	2421-22	2422-23	2423-24	2424-25	2425-26	2426-27	2427-28	2428-29	2429-30	2430-31	2431-32	2432-33	2433-34	2434-35	2435-36	2436-37	2437-38	2438-39	2439-40	2440-41	2441-42	2442-43	2443-44	2444-45	2445-46	2446-47	2447-48	2448-49	2449-50	2450-51	2451-52	2452-53	2453-54	2454-55	2455-56	2456-57	2457-58	2458-59	2459-60	2460-61	2461-62	2462-63	2463-64	2464-65	2465-66	2466-67	2467-68	2468-69	2469-70	2470-71	2471-72	2472-73	2473-74	2474-75	2475-76	2476-77	2477-78	2478-79	2479-80	2480-81	2481-82	2482-83	2483-84	2484-85	2485-86	2486-87	2487-88	2488-89	2489-90	2490-91	2491-92	2492-93	2493-94	2494-95	2495-96	2496-97	2497-98	2498-99	2499-00	2500-01	2501-02	2502-03	2503-04	2504-05	2505-06	2506-07	2507-08	2508-09	2509-10	2510-11	2511-12	2512-13	2513-14	2514-15	2515-16	2516-17	2517-18	2518-19	2519-20	2520-21	2521-22	2522-23	2523-24	2524-25	2525-26	2526-27	2527-28	2528-29	2529-30	2530-31	2531-32	2532-33	2533-34	2534-35	2535-36	2536-37	2537-38	2538-39	2539-40	2540-41	2541-42	2542-43	2543-44	2544-45	2545-46	2546-47	2547-48	2548-49	2549-50	2550-51	2551-52	2552-53	2553-54	2554-55	2555-56	2556-57	2557-58	2558-59	2559-60	2560-61	2561-62	2562-63	2563-64	2564-65	2565-66	2566-67	2567-68	2568-69	2569-70	2570-71	2571-72	2572-73	2573-74	2574-75	2575-76	2576-77	2577-78	2578-79	2579-80	2580-81	2581-82	2582-83	2583-84	2584-85	2585-86	2586-87	2587-88	2588-89	2589-90	2590-91	2591-92	2592-93	2593-94	2594-95	2595-96	2596-97	2597-98	2598-99	2599-00	2600-01	2601-02	2602-03	2603-04	2604-05	2605-06	2606-07	2607-08	2608-09	2609-10	2610-11	2611-12	2612-13	2613-14	2614-15	2615-16	2616-17	2617-18	2618-19	2619-20	2620-21	2621-22	2622-23	2623-24	2624-25	2625-26	2626-27	2627-28	2628-29	2629-30	2630-31	2631-32	2632-33	2633-34	2634-35	2635-36	2636-37	2637-38	2638-39	2639-40	2640-41	2641-42	2642-43	2643-44	2644-45	2645-46	2646-47	2647-48	2648-49	2649-50	2650-51	2651-52	2652-53	2653-54	2654-55	2655-56	2656-57	2657-58	2658-59	2659-60	2660-61	2661-62	2662-63	2663-64	2664-65	2665-66	2666-67	2667-68	2668-69	2669-70	2670-71	2671-72	2672-73	2673-74	2674-75	2675-76	2676-77	2677-78	2678-79	2679-80	2680-81	2681-82	2682-83	2683-84	2684-85	2685-86	2686-87	2687-88	2688-89	2689-90	2690-91	2691-92	2692-93	2693-94	2694-95	2695-96	2696-97	2697-98	2698-99	2699-00	2700-01	2701-02	2702-03	2703-04	2704-05	2705-06	2706-07	2707-08	2708-09	2709-10	2710-11	2711-12	2712-13	2713-14	2714-15	2715-16	2716-17	2717-18	2718-19	2719-20	2720-21	2721-22	2722-23	2723-24	2724-25	2725-26	2726-27	2727-28	2728-29	2729-30	2730-31	2731-32	2732-33	2733-34	2734-35	2735-36	2736-37	2737-38	2738-39	2739-40	2740-41	2741-42	2742-43	2743-44	2744-45	2745-46	2746-47	2747-48	2748-49	2749-50	2750-51	2751-52	2752-53	2753-54	2754-55	2755-56	2756-57	2757-58	2758-59	2759-60	2760-61	2761-62	2762-63	2763-64	2764-65	2765-66	2766-67	2767-68	2768-69	2769-70	2770-71	2771-72	2772-73	2773-74	2774-75	2775-76	2776-77	2777-78	2778-79	2779-80	2780-81	2781-82	2782-83	2783-84	2784-85	2785-86	2786-87	2787-88	2788-89	2789-90	2790-91	2791-92	2792-93	2793-94	2794-95	2795-96	2796-97	2797-98	2798-99	2799-00	2800-01	2801-02	2802-03	2803-04	2804-05	2805-06	2806-07	2807-08	2808-09	2809-10	2810-11	2811-12	2812-13	2813-14	2814-15	2815-16	2816-17	2817-18	2818-19	2819-20	2820-21	2821-22	2822-23	2823-24	2824-25	2825-26	2826-27	2827-28	2828-29	2829-30	2830-31	2831-32	2832-33	2833-34	2834-35	2835-36	2836-37	2837-38	2838-39	2839-40	2840-41	2841-42	2842-43	2843-44	2844-45	2845-46	2846-47	2847-48	2848-49	2849-50	2850-51	2851-52	2852-53	2853-54	2854-55	2855-56	2856-57	2857-58	2858-59	2859-60	2860-61	2861-62	2862-63	2863-64	2864-65	2865-66	2866-67	2867-68	2868-69	2869-70	2870-71	2871-72	2872-73	2873-74	2874-75	2875-76	2876-77	2877-78	2878-79	2879-80	2880-81	2881-82	2882-83	2883-84	2884-85	2885-86	2886-87	2887-88	2888-89	2889-90	2890-91	2891-92	2892-93	2893-94	2894-95	2895-96	2896-97	2897-98	2898-99	2899-00	2900-01	2901-02	2902-03	2903-04	2904-05	2905-06	2906-07	2907-08	2908-09	2909-10	2910-11	2911-12	2912-13	2913-14	2914-15	2915-16	2916-17	2917-18	2918-19	2919-20	2920-21	2921-22	2922-23	2923-24	2924-25	2925-26	2926-27	2927-28	2928-29	2929-30	2930-31	2931-32	2932-33	2933-34	2934-35	2935-36	2936-37	2937-38	2938-39	2939-40	2940-41	2941-42	2942-43	2943-44	2944-45	2945-46	2946-47	2947-48	2948-49	2949-50	2950-51	2951-52	2952-53	2953-54	2954-55	2955-56	295
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Greene Greene

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Circa £4,500 One of the World's leading Banks needs an experienced Secretary with first class shorthand and typing for their London office. The job involves frequent travel abroad, so an important part of your job will be to handle matters on your own initiative and report to correspondents where possible.

Benefits include 75% day LVA and mortgage subsidy. For further details contact Sue Gould on 01-506 5701 Burne House, 88-89 High Holborn, London, W.C.1. (Personnel Consultants)

Cripps, Sears

ADMINISTRATION, £2,000. Film Association urgently need assistance to run their office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office. The job involves frequent travel abroad, so an important part of your job will be to handle matters on your own initiative and report to correspondents where possible.

Benefits include 75% day LVA and mortgage subsidy. For further details contact Sue Gould on 01-506 5701 Burne House, 88-89 High Holborn, London, W.C.1. (Personnel Consultants)

STRIKE OIL W.I. The Institute of Petroleum require an ambitious Sales Executive to sell their monthly publication 'Petroleum Review'.

The ideal candidate will be aged between 22-27 years and will have a minimum of 2 years experience in media sales or a similar role. The salary will be in the region of £2,500.

PLEASE TELEPHONE PATRICK LIDDY ON (01) 636 1004

TOP JOB IN LITERARY AGENCY Managing Director of Literary Agency seeks experienced Assistant Secretary. Responsibilities include: day-to-day running of the office, stock management, motivation and co-ordination of staff. The job involves frequent travel abroad, so an important part of your job will be to handle matters on your own initiative and report to correspondents where possible.

Benefits include 75% day LVA and mortgage subsidy. For further details contact Sue Gould on 01-506 5701 Burne House, 88-89 High Holborn, London, W.C.1. (Personnel Consultants)

ARE YOU SPECIAL? Secretary/P.A. required by Chartered Accountant with varied business interests for Mayfair office. Excellent salary will be paid to right applicant whose appearance and personality, in addition to ability, will be considered to be of utmost importance.

PHONE 01-625 9518 (Mr Woolf) for interview.

SECRETARY/P.A. Aged 28-35, required for St. James's art dealer. Administration, typing and shorthand skills. Must have some French and fast shorthand skills. Salary commensurate with £3,400 p.a. with commission on sales. L.V.A. holiday arrangements commensurate.

Phone 839 3895

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Type, talk, edit, research ...a typical day

Consumers' Association gives independent and factually based guidance on goods and services available to the consumer. We do this predominantly through the Which? magazines.

This means we need capable, enthusiastic, people to help us publish our findings. People who can mix well, type well, even tackle some audio or shorthand, and have the right combination of imagination and initiative.

You might help analyse a financial report, edit an article, check out or devise a questionnaire. But most of all, you'll appreciate the idea of being given a job and left to get on with it.

Salaries are good and fringe benefits are excellent. There's five weeks' holiday and luncheon vouchers, for a start.

If you like the sound of the way we work, and you'd be prepared to work hard with friendly people, we'd like to hear from you.

Please telephone Ann Mulloy on 01-839 1222 for an application form.

Which?

Consumers' Association
14 Buckingham Street
London WC2N 6DS

Senior Secretary West Africa c£10,000 p.a.

Our clients, a major manufacturing company with world-wide links, are seeking a highly-qualified and experienced secretary to assist the Manager of a production plant in West Africa.

This is a key senior appointment which demands specific qualities. The successful candidate will have achieved advanced secretarial standards together with fluency in written and spoken French. He or she will preferably have had some working experience of the region involved.

Maturity of approach will be reinforced by initiative, determination and adaptability, plus the ability to mix well and communicate at all levels. The willingness and ability to participate in the teaching of English to local employees would be advantageous. The appointment is initially offered on a three year contract.

A substantial salary is offered together with generous attractive fringe benefits, a high standard of accommodation and generous home leave.

Please write with full personal and career details to Position Number ABS 868, Austin Knight Limited, Hagley House, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8QG.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Position Number Supervisor.

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PA/SECRETARY

for total involvement in large concerns

The Group Financial Director of a well-known house hold name and highly successful group, requires a capable and practical Secretary/PA aged under 35.

24 wide ranging responsibilities will involve you in a variety of areas and will call for flexibility, imagination and a systematic approach.

Less than half the duties will be shorthand and typing, the rest will be arranging meetings, dealing with people and providing information.

Fast, accurate typing, the ability to think and act quickly and discretion are essential.

A salary of £4,500 and attractive benefits will be offered.

Mary Overton
Female Executives
25 New Bond Street, London W1
Telephone 01-493 2155/0806

NEW HORIZONS

47-48, Brookman Road, S.W.2, 264 4222

YOUR CHOICE AT £4,000+

Newly appointed Director of City and County Bank requires a PA/Sec. 28-34. He'll delegate to you a wide range of duties as important as your secretarial skills. Excellent salary and benefits.

Manager of U.K. Tobacco Group in S.W.2. This is a highly interesting and challenging position with good opportunities for promotion. Bonus.

NEW HORIZONS

47-48, Brookman Road, S.W.2, 264 4222

OPPORTUNITY IN MARKETING £2,500 NEG.

Extremely nice M.D. of a small Marketing Company requires a bright P.A./Secretary to assist him. Lots of opportunity to use your own initiative in researching products and finding outlets for them. Excellent facilities and very easy-going atmosphere.

Contact Judy Blythin on 498 3712

ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS

186 Piccadilly 498 3712

PUBLISHING PLUS LANGUAGES

LONDON: EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Secretary with German or other languages. £2,500-£3,500.

STUTTGART: EDITOR'S SECRETARY With absolutely fluent German. £7,200 plus Bonus.

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22 Charing Cross Rd., W.C.2 01-836 374/5

ARE YOU A TOP SHORTHAND TYPIST WORTH £4,000?

Highly efficient shorthand-typist with at least 10 years' experience required by Australian office, Australia. English mother tongue. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

TELEPHONE MISS HALL 01-584 6218

£4,000+ AND PROGRESSIVE

Chief Executive of small publishing company, requires a capable well-organized and experienced Secretary/PA. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

TELEPHONE MISS HALL 01-584 6218

SECRETARY in PUTNEY

Wanted for live wire marketing director who works from home. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

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PER Top Jobs for Executive Secretaries

OPPORTUNITY W.C.2 £40

An American Consulting firm seeks a Secretary with excellent shorthand/typing skills. Four weeks' holiday, Christmas Bonus, Overtime.

Contact: Miss Angela Moriarty 01-235 9

PERSONNEL

A senior Personnel Assistant with personal secretarial skills will handle day to day personnel work, arrange interviews, deal with queries and conduct certain interviews. In addition maintaining usual staff records etc. After months' trial the salary will be £3,500 and discounts.

Contact: Miss Angela Moriarty 01-235 9

MERTON S.W.19 £3.5

An experienced Secretary/PA to work for Managing Director of a busy Company. Du will include a variety of responsibilities for person and, although not essential, knowledge of French and/or Italian could be useful.

Contact: Mrs. Jo Armit 01-235 9

CAMDEN TOWN £3.5

The Chairman/Managing Director of an English Company is looking for an efficient Secretary/PA to assist with day to day work. A driving licence is essential for occasional trips to the airport. Own office, four w. holiday.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

S.W.1 £4.0

A senior Secretary to work for a non-commercial association with world-wide connections. luncheon vouchers. 22 days holiday. Pleasant environment.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

Late night opening 6.45 pm every Thursday.

Telephone Mrs Dorothy Allison (Manager) on 01-235 9984 for an appointment at 4-5 Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, SW.

NO ORDINARY OFFICE JOB

The Architectural Association of Architects. The applications from us to be experienced P.A. to assist the Chairman. Good salary, typing, 2 w. holiday.

Please ring the No. 01-636 0974 for an informal interview.

SKILLERS!

Your chance to gain advantage by using your skills in a new and exciting way. We are looking for people who can mix well, type well, even tackle some audio or shorthand, and have the right combination of imagination and initiative.

Salary £3,500 and discounts.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

AUDIO TYPIST £3,500 AND BIG BONUS

Super opportunity for a girl of young age with a little legal knowledge. We are looking for a girl who can mix well, type well, even tackle some audio or shorthand, and have the right combination of imagination and initiative.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

Typing with a Difference

First Class Typist sought by a well-known company. Must be able to type 40 wpm. Good salary and benefits.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

ASSISTANT for Sanderson Press

Very office in West End. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

FURNISHING LETTINGS negotiator

and/or management assistant for a well-known company. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

Contact: Mrs. Dawn Shafer 01-235 9

VIDEO COMPANY requires efficient

Secretary/PA. Must be of sound commercial background and should preferably be available to commence on 3rd October. Annual salary £4,000.

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To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel. PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY 01-837 3311 APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161 PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS 01-278 9231 PERSONAL TRADE 01-278 9351 MANCHESTER OFFICE 061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel. Classified Queries Dept. 01-837 1234, Extn. 7180

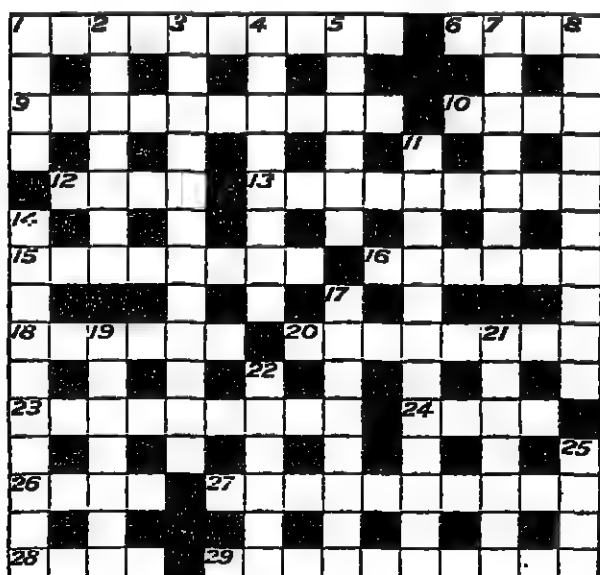
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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

BIRTHS
BAKER—On August 28th at Cuckfield Hospital, Sussex, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. J. Baker, of Cuckfield, Sussex, gave birth to a son, James John Baker, weighing 7lb 10oz. The father is a member of the Royal Air Force.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,694



ACROSS
1 Poor little thing! (6, 4).
2 It's owner is back, inventing money in mineral (4).
3 But no Canadian policeman trusts his money to this (10).
4 A little lamb about to jump up and down (4).
5 Alarming cry comes back—title is rising (4).
6 Their loan is arranged by Richard (4-5).
7 Hairdressers consulted by homeless pigs? (3).
8 The "most unkindest cut" so cruel? (4).
9 Lullaby the understanding (6).
10 Punishing to run it, but a challenge (11).
11 Make provision with universal law reforming a nocturnal racket (10).
12 Many was old in a beasty prison (4).
13 She appeared before Mary—other actor (4).
14 Room for sweaters (10).
15 One showing no surprise at the deluge (4).
16 Youth makes his way up without unemployment pay (10).
DOWN
1 Order looks for instance, care of the doer (4).
2 Commonly found article in uranium soil (7).
3 Felix's contributions to early radio were the tops (4, 8).

SUCCESS FOR B.B.!

Even the rotten weather has been having lately didn't dampen the response to this ad. Booked on our series plan (4 days a free), it was cancelled after 1 day, having been entirely successful. Rain or shine, you'll find success with The Times.

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01-837 3311 TODAY

BIRTHS

MEATCOTE—On August 18th at St. Mary's Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. J. Meatcote, of St. Mary's, gave birth to a son, James John Meatcote, weighing 7lb 10oz. The father is a member of the Royal Air Force.

MARRIAGES

CARTWRIGHT—On August 28th at St. Mary's Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cartwright, of St. Mary's, gave birth to a son, James John Cartwright, weighing 7lb 10oz. The father is a member of the Royal Air Force.

DEATHS

BARBER—On August 27, 1977, at St. Mary's Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. J. Barber, of St. Mary's, gave birth to a son, James John Barber, weighing 7lb 10oz. The father is a member of the Royal Air Force.

DEATHS

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DEATHS

MARTIN—On August 18th at St. Mary's Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, of St. Mary's, gave birth to a son, James John Martin, weighing 7lb 10oz. The father is a member of the Royal Air Force.

DEATHS

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANIMALS NEED YOUR HELP
The above, the only animal shelter in the area, is looking for volunteers to help with the care of the animals. The shelter is open from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on weekdays and 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on weekends. The shelter is located at 10, The Green, London, N.W.11. Tel. 01-837 1234.

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YACHTS AND BOATS

THOMAS BOAT available now, from 24.95 p.w. to 79.95.

SUMMER SALES

HALF-PRICE FASHION SALE
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UK HOLIDAYS

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GOLFING BREAKS

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CHINA-795
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THOMSON WINTER HOLIDAYS

UP UP AND AWAY
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A girl making Raleigh bicycles in Kuala Lumpur; a farmer ploughing around a modern obstruction in his paddy field; and a Kelabit girl from the upper Baram valley in north-east Sarawak, wearing the traditional ear-rings.

by Peter Hazelhurst

more reasonable quota of 55 per cent. Of the 25,000 seats for higher education, only 10,000 are occupied by non-

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Defusing the racial time-bomb

by K. Das

While the legend on the national coat of arms has been proclaiming for 20 years that "unity is strength" it was only this year that the key member of the ruling National Front (NF), the Malay-based United Malay National Organisation (UMNO), adopted "unity" as its slogan and catch-phrase.

The significance of this move was that it brought into focus the trials and tribulations not only of the party which fought for independence but of the country which began its independent life in 1957 with a racial composition which was described internationally as a time-bomb.

As the politics of Malaysia have always been frankly race-based, the leadership of UMNO from the beginning was aware enough and far-sighted enough to keep opposing race factions in a state of equilibrium, the Malays conceding when necessary, the Chinese demanding when the demands were realistic, and the Indians trading off their vote-getting power for whatever they could expect in their weak position.

All parties, however, conceded quietly that UMNO was at the centre of the political scene. In 1974, the late Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister since 1970, managed with this knowledge to drag together and harness to the original three-party alliance just about every political party in the country except the extreme left Parti Sosialis Rakyat Malaysia, the Democratic Action Party and the Social Justice Party (Peikema).

UMNO was founded in 1946 by the late Datuk Onn Jaafar, father of the present Prime Minister, Datuk Hussein Onn, and both father and son left the party in the early 1950s because it would not countenance the idea of opening membership to other races.

But even after their departure, the party, faced with the reality of a multi-racial society, had to find formulas for a multi-racial government, and Datuk Onn's successor, Tun Abdul Rahman, forged the alliance.

A great deal of horse-trading was necessary to keep the Malay party in funds and the key Chinese leaders in business, but what the party allowed to fade out of sight was the quiet Merdeka (independence) agreement. While in 1957 about a

million Chinese were enfranchised, the Chinese made no effort to keep their side of the bargain: to help the Malays to go into business. Pumping Chinese money into UMNO was not exactly what was made.

The quiet prosperity of the late 1950s (with the communist insurrection beaten) and the early 1960s, allowed the bargain to be forgotten. In 1963 came "independence" and Indonesia, and there was kind of wartime unity in which the more mundane economic priorities were also allowed to recede.

But confrontation ended in 1965. In 1967, with 10 years of independence behind them, the Malays began to ask what had happened to the fruits of Merdeka. They were still not as well off as the other races.

Factions within the party began to challenge the leadership, and Tun Abdul Rahman still believing in gradualism, tried to fend off attacks.

The so-called ultras, the extremists, made no apology for their priorities and it was in this mood that in 1969 the alliance went to the polls and found a country completely polarized racially.

The murderous riots of May 13, 1969, erupted, UMNO lost ground in every state, and in Selangor, where the riots centred in Kuala Lumpur, the opposition held as many seats as the ruling alliance. Penang was lost to the opposition Gerakan Party.

Everywhere throughout the peninsula UMNO was in disarray. Tun Abdul Rahman was under tremendous pressure to step down. When he did, the stage was set for new priorities in both politics and economics.

The late Tun Razak, who became premier in 1960, had begun his political career in the early 1950s with an image of being anti-Chinese, but in the years under Tun Abdul Rahman, he came to be known to the Chinese as fair-minded. This he made his task of restructuring society, if not easy, at least not impossible.

But the aims of the New Economic Policy, as it is called, were misunderstood by the Malays and the Chinese. Both believed that it was a kind of robbing-Peter-to-pay-Paul philosophy, the Malays identifying with Paul, and the Chinese angrily conscious of their role as the passive Peter.

The immediate reaction to the post-riot era was for the Malays to seek patronage from the Government to undercut if not to undermine the Chinese. The Government, having launched the policy, was at a loss to deny the Malay demand that the Chinese preserves were easier to penetrate.

The Chinese reacted by boycotting the Malay businesses, but there were few businesses to boycott. Only Malay petty traders suffered, and this simply hardened the attitude of the leadership and the party extremists.

By 1974 Tun Razak could see that unless UMNO retained power in spite of widespread disaffection, the 1969 disaster could be repeated. His solution of gathering as many of the opposition groups together into UMNO's camp could at least stay any potential conflict. But a year later, as he became weaker with growing illness, his party was showing signs of disunity.

In Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Harun Idris was increasingly becoming the focal point of Malaysian aspirations as he appeared to be preparing to contest the leadership. He stood for the vice-presidency of the party in July 1975 and lost. The ailing Prime Minister gave warning that Datuk Harun must stop his activities, but privately offered him the post of ambassador to the United Nations.

Meanwhile, Datuk Harun was being publicly accused in Parliament of massive corruption. He denied it and would not accept the post in New York unless cleared of the charges.

The Prime Minister's reaction shook the party for almost 18 months. Datuk Harun was arrested, tried and convicted twice, for corruption and forgery. Another powerful figure who complicated UMNO politics was the ex-Chief Minister of Sabah, Tun Mustapha, who wanted to influence UMNO through proxy and patronage. A largely tolerant Kuala Lumpur leadership, now headed by Datuk Hussein Onn, organized his removal by the simple expedient of having an honest election, something the state had not experienced for some eight years.

These events had a salutary effect on the population. The Malays were made aware that privilege was not to be taken for licence and the non-Malays were made to feel that no one could override the law.

The author is Kuala Lumpur correspondent, Far Eastern Economic Review.

Pact creates waves on shipping scene

by Wong Wai Lin

Malaysia created waves on the international shipping scene when, along with its neighbours Indonesia and Singapore, it created a pact regulating passage of ships through the Strait of Malacca.

World curiosity was excited because of maritime powers' worries that restrictions in the strait, traditionally considered high seas, would set a precedent to end the international status of 116 straits with overlapping waters the world over, thereby interfering with the concept of free passage.

The tripartite agreement, essentially designed to prevent pollution of the strait from oil spillage, takes precautions to ensure that oil tankers do not run aground on the shallow waters of the strait by insisting that the vessels observe a minimum draft under clear clearance (UKC).

The UKC ruling, which refers to the distance between the ship's keel and the seabed when en route, may compel many of the supertankers carrying oil between the Gulf states and Japan to make a 1,200-mile detour.

The pact also spells out the delineation of traffic lanes, the installation of navigation aids and speed limits through certain critical areas.

Despite their initial contention, the maritime powers have accepted the pact, recognized that the strait nations have genuine interests to protect. Japan has offered financial and technical help in drawing up maritime charts and conducting a comprehensive survey of the tidal patterns in the strait. Further assistance has been promised by the International Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

Although the three contiguous bodies share a common anti-pollution stand, Malaysia has the most at stake because the strait fishing grounds support the livelihood of 1,100,000 fishermen and their dependents.

Their annual catch of 270,000 tons of fish supplies three quarters of Malaysia's protein needs. In addition, Malaysia also earns \$3100m a year from foreign exchange from its marine exports, a big proportion of which is attributable to its prawn industry spawned in the south-eastern corner of the strait along the Muar river estuary.

Malaysia is a newcomer to the ranks of countries which have adopted an anti-pollution stand. But its doing so suggests that its development policy is no longer the construction of basic facilities. The keynotes now are the upgrading of existing facilities as well as the construction of new ones in the economically poorer states, most of them on the east coast of peninsular Malaysia.

The east-west highway, scheduled to be completed to 1979, is Malaysia's most ambitious road development project and will provide the vital connexion between the richer west coast states and their less fortunate east coast counterparts.

The project, estimated to cost \$200m, involves cutting through virgin jungle to build 72 miles of road connecting Grik and Jeli. Heavy rock blasting and road construction are carried on simultaneously outwards from both towns and the 24ft road should allow motorists to drive up to 60 mph on flat terrain and 40 mph on mountainous land.

While the rest of the country is opened up by bold road projects, attention has also to be devoted to the country's capital Kuala Lumpur. The city which has grown through the years with little town planning continues to suffer increasingly heavy traffic congestion, a situation partially brought about by the high rate of increase of vehicles on the road.

The number of vehicles registered in West Malaysia showed an increase between 1972 and 1976 from 818,657 to 1,405,653.

The carrier has been meeting firm British resistance to its plan to introduce its second DC10, scheduled to be delivered late this year, in place of the Boeing 707s on the popular Kuala Lumpur-London route. Other destinations as an alternative to London which are being considered are Frankfurt and Amsterdam.

The carrier has planned delivery of two more wide-bodied aircraft and six Boeing 737s in 1980-81 in line with an extension of its network to cover Jeddah, Frankfurt, Rome, Moscow, Osaka, Seoul and Colombo.

With the June opening of 11,000ft of runway at Penang's Bayan Lepas airport, part of a \$70m modernisation project which enables the airport to cater for the big jets including jumbos, Malaysia can lay claim to having two international airports.

Out of the \$4,000m allotted under the third five-year economic plan for transport and communications, port expansion took second place to highway development with an allocation of \$475.2m. The programme will enable all major ports in West Malaysia to increase capacity from 6,800,000 tons in 1975 to 11,400,000 in 1980.

Malayan Railway has changed its policies and last year managed to declare its first profits for 14 years—some \$12.5m under the guidance of Datuk Ishak Tadin its administrator. Adopting an even more aggressive marketing policy this year the railway hopes to top the \$100m profit mark.

The author is staff correspondent, Business Times Kuala Lumpur.

Root cause of traffic jams

To try to alleviate the congestion, the city administration has decided to launch a multi-million dispersed programme. Under this, all major roundabouts, usually the root cause of traffic jams, will be replaced by light-controlled junctions, involving an expenditure of \$200m. By 1979, the entire traffic system will be controlled from a computer centre.

A sum of \$106m will be spent on the construction of the middle ring road system as it was found in a 1973 transport survey that a large percentage of vehicles in the town centre were only in transit through the city centre.

By using the ring road system, which includes the Kuala Lumpur-Petaling Jaya highway, the Kuala Lumpur-Seremban expressway and the southern approach to the city, north-bound and south-bound traffic will be able to get on to the interstate highway without passing through the city.

Along with the implementation of the ring road system is the simultaneous introduction of the Licensing scheme, an adoption of Singapore's lead whereby the city will be closed to private cars during peak periods exempting only those cars which are fully occupied.

Some of the city's residents remain sceptical that the Licensing scheme will exercise much influence on the commuters' habits because alternative means of

transport are inadequate or often inefficient. The Malaysian Government has shown itself conscious of the need to improve services. Tan S. V. Manickavasagam, the Minister of Communications recently said the Malaysian sea and airports had to keep pace with modern technological development or else they would be ignored by international business.

Malaysia was a late entry to the big jet league and only last October launched its first DC10 to fly the Far East route. Developing at this competitive time has made it difficult for the national carrier, Malaysian Airline System, to obtain traffic rights.

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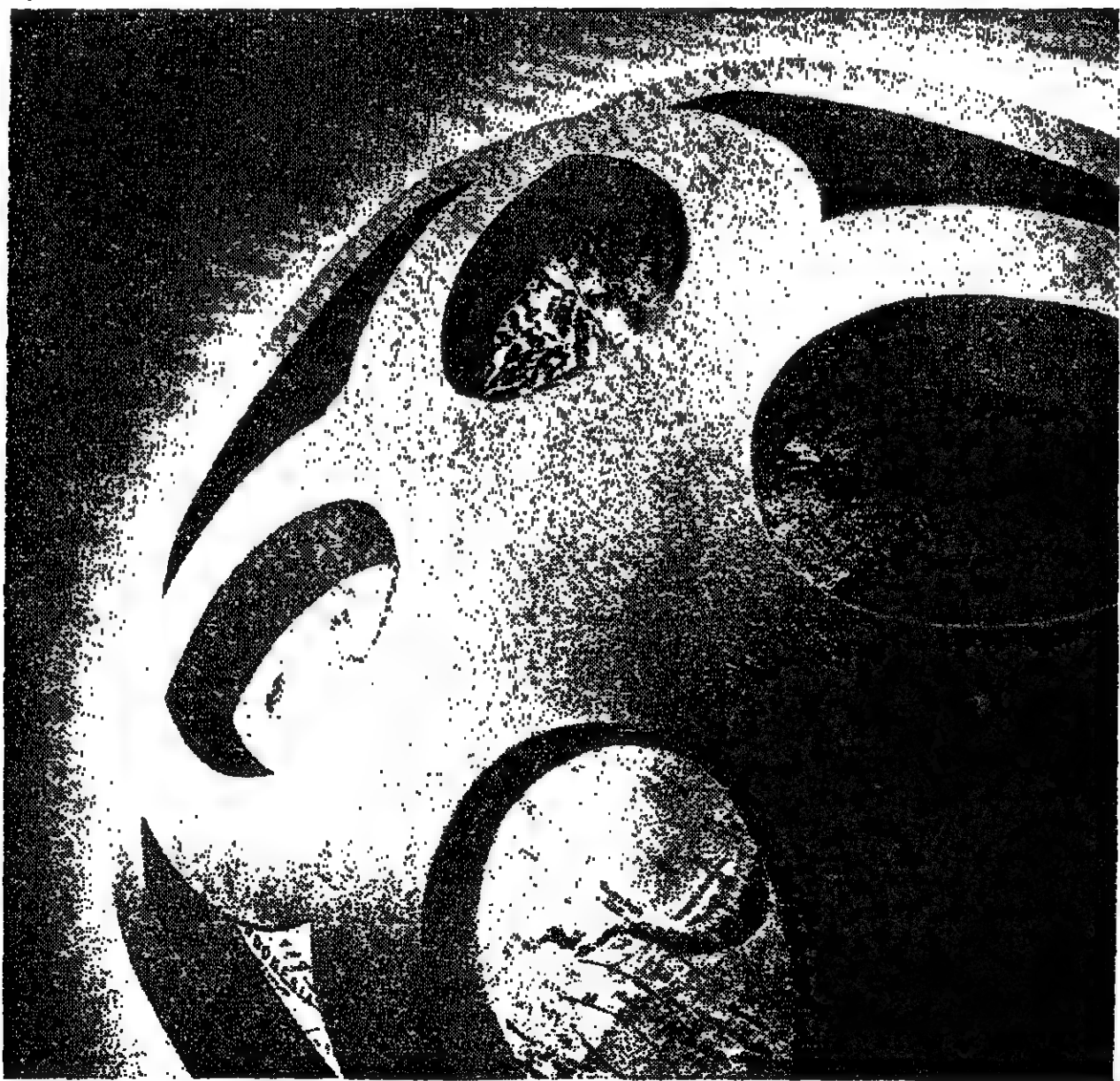
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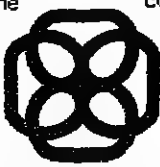
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by Anthony Rowley

from diversification
economy, one impor-
tant in which Malaysia
aiming to reduce its
vulnerability to fluctuations

Performance
'creditable by
comparison'

Moreover, both the economic growth achieved last year and that targeted for this year are ahead of the 8.2 per cent a year average annual rate envisaged during the currency of the third plan, 1976-80. There are, however, a number of important caveats to be set against the record and the prospects for Malaysia's economy.

The answer to this vulnerability is increased diversification, particularly towards the processing and manufacturing sector where added value per unit of output is considerably higher than in the export of basic commodities, economists argue.

In 1976 approval was given by the Government for the establishment of 425 manufacturing projects, involving a total potential investment of \$1,220m compared with 461 approvals in the previous year involving a total proposed investment of \$1,400m.

	1976 \$Mn	%	1975 change	1975 %
Agriculture	7,378.2	55.1	-18.5	+47.1
Rubber	3,098.0	23.0	-29.9	+52.9
Saw logs	1,450.2	10.8	-35.2	+116.8
Sawn timber	884.8	6.8	-13.0	+100.4
Palm oil	1,210.0	9.0	+21.4	-8.2
Palm kernel oil	13.2	0.1	-34.1	+6.9
Fish	253.3	1.9	+0.8	+115.3
Pepper	138.8	1.0	NC	+30.8
Coconut oil	36.2	0.3	-59.1	-18.7
Other	185.7	1.4	+33.0	+23.0
Minerals	3,377.7	25.2	-8.1	+80.3
Tin	1,824.0	11.4	-20.4	+28.4
Petroleum	1,746.4	13.0	+25.0	+10.8
Other	107.3	0.8	-3.2	+124.9
Manufactures	2,580.2	19.7	+18.1	+27.5
Other	101.3	0.7	-7.4	+13.9

Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia.

**Licensing Act
arouses
intervention fears**

After an outcry from the private sector and protests that the Act could jeopardize or even completely halt the flow of foreign investment capital into Malaysia, the Industrial Coordination Act was modified in certain respects in May.

Assurances were given that manufacturing activities existing at the time the Act came into force would automatically be given a licence. Manufacturers had only to apply for a licence or submit a letter of intent to apply for registration.

Another major source of uncertainty affecting investment in Malaysia has been that surrounding the third Malaysia plan and its targets for shifting part of the ownership of business and industry into Bumiputra hands.

These targets envisage that, by 1990, Bumiputras will own 30 per cent of total equity capital stock in Malaysia as against 7.8 per cent in 1975 and that other Malaysians (mainly Chinese) will own 40 per cent by 1990 as against the 37.7 per cent they owned in 1975.

The growth rate for Bumiputras is clearly by far the more ambitious and presupposes an annual average growth rate of 25.8 per cent between 1976 and 1990. It is not yet clear whether the targets were met last year. The only guidance offered by the Ministry of Finance annual report was that Bumiputra equity in the projects increased from 29 per cent in 1975 to 37 per cent in the first seven months of 1976.

Just what the target of 30 per cent Bumiputera ownership by 1990 means in terms of actual investment is not clear even to the authors of the third plan, nor is the precise total value of Malaysian corporate stock and the current growth rates being achieved. Work towards getting out some meaningful and reliable figures on this is being carried out under the aegis of the Prime Minister's department.

In theory the growth in total corporate stock is supposed to be rapid enough to ensure that the targets for Bumputra ownership can be achieved out of expanded equity by 1990 rather than by requiring existing owners to dispose of their shares.

Nevertheless there appears to have been a not insignificant incidence so far of existing shareholdings being sold out to Bumpiputras, possibly as a means of ensuring the grant of a licence under the ICA. According to the Bank Negara: "Inflow of corporate investment in the form of direct and portfolio investment, including reinvestment (in 1976), was

partly arise by outflows arising from sales to residents of shares held by foreigners including those in rubber and tin companies and a company generating hydroelectricity supply.²⁸ Another factor here, however, may have been the change of domicile of certain Malaysian tin and plantation companies from London to Kuala Lumpur.

**Available cash
more than
loan demand**

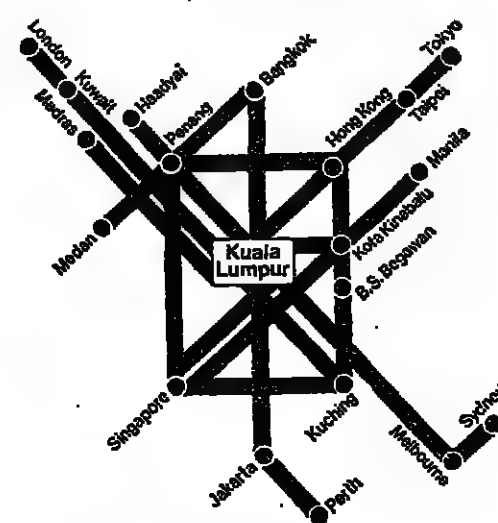
What bothers the Government is that the mountain of corporate and private cash sitting in Malaysian commercial banks at present—\$M11.82m as at the end of April—is unmatched by loan demand from the private sector. Apart from creating a situation of unprecedented and not highly profitable over-liquidity for the banks themselves this denotes continued stagnation in investment.

Interest rates were reduced by one point at the beginning of June in an effort to spur the manufacturing sector into borrowing and investing, more cash from the banks but so far there is only "sketchy" evidence that this move might be having the desired effect. The Agency is certainly alert to any manufacturing and investment in Malaysia may well take longer to dissipate than it did to create. In the meantime, the economy will continue to lean rather heavily on commodity earnings and thus on factors partly outside Malaysia's control.

The author is Singapore correspondent, Far Eastern Economic Review.

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malaysian airline system

On this and the facing page Thaung Myine, Reuter correspondent in Kuala Lumpur, looks at Malaysian efforts to stabilize commodity prices on world markets and examines four major industries in detail

Primary goods guarantee a trade surplus

Malaysia recorded a trade surplus of \$M1,002m (£240m) in the first quarter of this year because of increased sales of its primary commodities at attractive prices in world markets.

The surplus compared favourably with the record surplus of \$M1,127m in the preceding quarter, which was a period of peak export performance, and it was double the surplus of the

corresponding period last year.

Bank Negara Malaysia, the central bank, said in the latest issue of its economic bulletin that most of the high export earnings this year were largely the result of increased exports of rubber, palm oil and tin.

The high level of exports at good prices only serves to reinforce the determination of Malaysian leaders to achieve stabilization of commodity prices to prevent the kind of economic recession, with attendant political disturbances, that they faced in 1974.

In that year, when commodity prices fell and inflation raged, anti-government demonstrations broke out in the economically depressed countryside against alleged corruption in high places.

Thousands of university students in the capital joined in protest marches, which were suppressed with force by armed police and the military.

Since then government leaders have been working on schemes for stabilizing commodity prices with like-minded primary producers in South-east Asia and other parts of the Third World.

Datuk Musa Hitam, the Primary Industries Minister, headed the move for a buffer stock of rubber and price stabilization scheme, which was signed last year by the members of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC).

It was based on the tin buffer stock scheme of the International Tin Council, with various price bands to prevent a sudden fall of prices.

Datuk Musa and Datuk Hamzah Abu Samah, the Trade and Industry Minister, have also been urging industrialized countries to agree to the concept of a common

fund for stabilization of primary commodity markets, including palm oil and rubber.

Datuk Hussein, the prime minister, took up this issue of the common fund at the recent Commonwealth summit in London, which was attended by a technical working group on the question of Malaysia as a member.

The group met in London from July 22 to 24 to pave the way for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) negotiations on such a common fund in Geneva from November 7 to December 2.

The idea of the common fund conceived by Malaysian leaders is to have a ready source of finance which can be used for stabilization of prices through commodity buffer stock schemes.

But industrialized nations have raised objections that it would interfere with the normal forces of supply and demand, and thus raise prices and lead to inflation.

Replying to these objections, Mr Lew Sij Hon, Deputy Primary Industries Minister, told a seminar on the common fund in Kuala Lumpur recently that measures to lessen excessive fluctuations of commodity prices in the short term were not to correct any spectacular trend, but to overcome price

swings resulting from transient imbalances in supply and demand.

To the other objection that existing international financial institutions are adequate to correct price stabilization, Mr Lew said: "The existing institutions and systems were designed mainly to serve the needs of the rich nations and as such they have outlived their usefulness."

Tin: plans to attack host of troubles

The Malaysian Government has designated 1977 as the year of sustained development for the tin industry, which has declined in recent years.

From a record output of 76,830 tonnes in 1972, tin production fell to 63,401 tonnes last year. More than 30 mines were closed last year and 2,900 people thrown out of work.

Despite the decline in production, tin remains the third largest foreign exchange earner for Malaysia. Export receipts from tin last year reached a record \$M1,534m (£363m), surpassing the previous record of \$1,515m in 1974, because of a significant rise in world prices.

The Government benefited by \$290m from export duties and surcharges last year, and this year it expects to earn \$348m from such taxes. It has plans to attack the host of difficulties plaguing the industry.

The closure of mines, which led to the decline in yearly production, does not give a true picture because recent discoveries of new deposits show that Malaysia will remain the world's leading tin producer in the foreseeable future.

But few Malays have the capital or the skill to win their share of 30 per cent in the industry, which is the target to be reached by 1990 under the new economic policy. This is the crux of the problem facing foreign-owned mines looking for Malays to join in prospecting and mining of tin.

Meanwhile, miners are finding it difficult to get new land for prospecting and mining, or even to renew existing mining leases, which takes a long time. The difficulty of land acquisition and mining lease renewal is compounded by the exercise of jurisdiction by state governments, instead of by the Federal Government, over land and mining.

The states have little interest in renewing mining leases because they get only a minor share of tin revenue, and when they are willing to release mining land they often want inclusion of a Malay partner. But Malays with capital are prepared to enter into partnership only when tin is found, because they are not prepared to take the risks involved in prospecting.

The Federal Government and the National Land Council are reported to have agreed on drafting a national mining code to standardize and streamline procedures on prospecting, land alienation, and the issue and renewal of mining leases.

Miners hope for speedy action on the land code, now announced that the state-owned Pemas Securities holds a major stake in the tin industry.

Pemas Securities owns nearly 73 per cent of the major dredging companies, including the entire Anglo-Oriental group and substantial interests of the Associated Mines group.

Present frustrations and uncertainties faced by potential investors in Malaysia's tin industry are best illustrated by the case of Chartered Consolidated, a large British mining conglomerate.

The company discovered tin deposits in Kuala Lumpur, said to be the world's largest, in 1974 after spending more than \$2m in prospecting. The reserves are estimated at 305,000 tonnes—about five times the present annual output of Malaysia.

Chartered Consolidated entered into an agreement with Datuk Harun Idris, who was the Chief Minister of Selangor state, but after his dismissal last year, his successor said the agreement was invalid because it contravened the new economic policy. Chartered Consolidated is now looking for legal means to save the agreement.

Miners also complain about high taxes, which take up to 70 per cent of their profits. The president of the Chamber of Mines, in his annual meeting speech this year, called taxation "the major economic problem of the tin industry." The Finance Minister, in response, said recently that his ministry was restructuring duties and taxes levied on the industry.

The Government has also announced that it is setting up a metals exchange in Malaysia is being considered.

It has asked the Commonwealth Secretariat to conduct a feasibility study on the proposed exchange. The move is part of the Government's plan to improve the marketing aspects of the various major commodities, including rubber, tin and palm oil.

The world's tin price is expected to remain high. The International Tin Council has reported a shortage of 18,140 tonnes of tin this year, but miners say Malaysia will not be able to meet this shortage in the present circumstances.

After a two-day seminar on the problems of the mining industry a six-man committee, representative of both the Government and miners, has been appointed to make an in-depth study of the operation of the tin mines and recommend ways to stimulate their growth.

The committee, led by the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Primary Industries, Tunku Tan Sri Ngah, will consider all the points raised by the seminar and seek the views of others interested in the tin industry.

Datuk Leow Yan Sip, a committee member representing the Chinese Mining Association, said both the Government and miners had now positively diagnosed all the ills of the industry to which several factors had contributed. These included depletion of workable tin reserves, copying taxation, soaring production costs and inconsistencies in the policies of various state governments on alienation, conversion and renewal of mining leases.

Reflecting the views of foreign and Chinese miners

who control the tin industry, Datuk Leow said it was now left to be seen whether the Government would apply appropriate cures to the ailing industry and set it on the road to recovery.

Surcharge on tin, which is a direct tax on production, should be abolished. Miners pay export duty and surcharge, tin profits tax, sales tax, development tax, income tax and import duties.

Datuk Leow said: "Overnight, marginal properties will become mineable. More mines will reopen and there will be more employment." Last year 36 gravel pump mines closed because of rising costs and 2,900 people were thrown out of work.

Datuk Leow believes that potential mining lands should be opened for prospecting, and the system of land administration by state governments, now bogged down in bureaucratic red tape, be improved under a fair, definite and clear-cut policy. He suggested a review of the royalty distribution ratio between the federal and state governments to encourage state governments to release more land for mining.

Datuk Muhammad Salleh Majid, the chief inspector of Mines, told the seminar that the federal Government was preparing a national mining code to harmonize legislation on mining and formulate a well-defined mining policy. But he added that the code would take some time to materialize because differences between the federal and state governments on land policy had to be resolved.

Timber: keeping up after rapid recovery

Timber continues to maintain its position as an important export commodity for Malaysia after a spectacular recovery last year in world markets.

Exports of saw logs rose to 2,515,000 cu metres worth \$M290m (£70m) in January to March this year compared with 1,892,000 cu metres valued at \$174m (£41m) in the corresponding period of 1976.

Sawn timber exports increased to 710,000 cu metres in the first quarter of this year from 540,000 cu metres in the January-March period last year. Sawn timber exports for this period were worth \$205m (£49m) compared with \$149m (£35m) last year.

The prices of timber in the first quarter this year were close to the average prices last year. They were \$115 compared with \$117 a cu metre of saw logs and \$248 compared with \$249 a cu metre of sawn timber.

Government economists say that traditional important buyers of Malaysian timber—the European Economic Community, Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan—returned in force to the market last year because of a marked improvement in their construction activities after the recession in 1975.

Gross export earnings from 12,100,000 cu metres of saw logs at \$1,450m (£345m) last year represented a rise of 116.6 per cent. Sawn timber exports of 3,100,000 cu metres also represented a sharp rise of 110.4 per cent

at \$85m (£204m). Thus, timber became the fourth largest foreign exchange earner for Malaysia in 1976 after rubber, petroleum and tin.

The distribution of export earnings from timber was also pleasing to the federal Government because most of them came from the timber-rich states of Sabah and Sarawak in East Malaysia, which are still lagging behind West Malaysia in overall economic development.

Sabah took a lion's share of \$1,178m (£280m) from saw logs export, while Sarawak earned \$236m (£56m) and West Malaysia \$36m (£8.5m).

It was only in exports of sawn timber that West Malaysia, with 500 mills, earned a big share of \$768m (£183m), leaving most of the remaining \$17m (£4m) to Sabah and Sarawak.

Sabah's share in sawn timber exports was negligible, but the state with its timber resources in 23,600 sq miles of forest has the potential to develop its own wood processing industry. Towards this end, the Sabah Government last December organized the first timber conference at the state capital of Kota Kinabalu.

The conference discussed possibilities of attracting Japanese capital for a wood processing industry in Sabah and solving the timber industry's problems with the Japanese market, which is the biggest source of state timber income.

At the federal level, the Malaysian Timber Industry Board is continuing with its efforts to regulate timber trade, aimed at making Malaysian timber competitive in overseas markets.

Last year it registered more than 27,600 firms engaged in various aspects of timber export activities, and set up a panel to settle disputes among buyers, exporters and producers.

At the regional level of promoting timber exports, Malaysia, with New Zealand's help, took part in a primary forest survey on the timber of the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN). ASEAN groups Malaysia with the timber exporting countries of the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore.

The survey concentrated on the end-use of timber from ASEAN countries in the United States, Japan, country and watersheds. The inventory gives warning to the timber industry to start thinking more seriously about reforestation in the more heavily logged areas to maintain the log supply.

The Government is working hard with its programme of reforestation in timber-denuded states on the west coast of West Malaysia, and also in the joint ASEAN effort for central state of Pahang.

The reforestation programme has covered 700,000 acres. The Government is also looking into the possibility of making private loggers with concessions of more than 30,000 acres carry out their own reforestation programmes.

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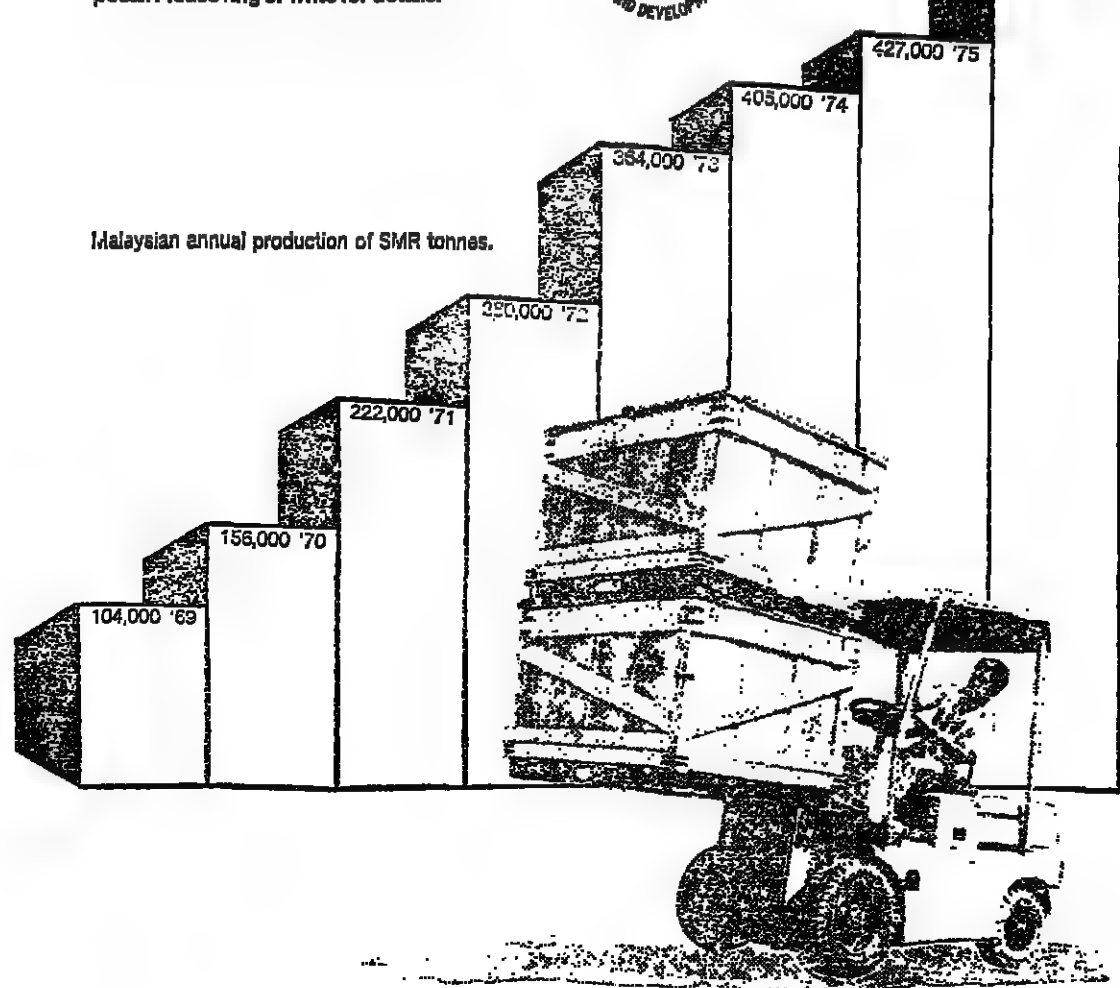
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These two ceremonies, 8,000 miles apart, underlined—to quote the Prime Minister—"the Malaysian Government's concern for the maximum effective support of natural rubber by scientific and technological resources" and he made it clear that intensive development of the rubber sector had a very special purpose within the Third Malaysia Plan.

"The Plan", he said, "gives highest priority to the growth and modernization of the agricultural sector, on which MS4.7 billion is being expended. Nearly 60% of this expenditure is to go towards programmes aimed at increasing productivity in existing agricultural areas, in order to improve the incomes and general welfare of the rural poor. In this sector the rubber smallholder occupies a predominant place. The Government has pledged itself to ensure that every cent spent under the Plan will generate benefits to those for whom such expenditure is designed."

The MRRDB
The Malaysian Rubber Research and Development Board plays a key role within that part of the Plan which is concerned with the development of Malaysia's primary and major industry—the natural rubber industry.

MRRDB fosters technical progress in this industry at all stages from the seed to the manufactured rubber product and to this end the powerful scientific and technological resources of the two laboratories mentioned are deployed.

The MRRDB, the NEP and the TMP

"The extension now being built to these laboratories is, in fact, one of the very many development projects for the rubber sector of our economy included in the Plan" said the Prime Minister of Malaysia, YAB Datuk Hussein Onn on June 7th, 1977. He was naming the laboratory complex of the Malaysian Rubber Producers' Research Association at Brickendonbury, England the 'Tun Razak Laboratory'.

"The credit worthiness of the Government is high, the balance of payments position is comfortable, the external reserves of the country are at a healthy level and the external debt is comparatively small" said the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed, at the opening of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia's new Technology Centre near Kuala Lumpur in November, 1976.

Main objectives of the 'Third Malaysia Plan' implementing the 'New Economic Policy'

- (1) To reduce the incidence of poverty in the rural areas throughout the country among padi cultivators, rubber smallholders, coconut smallholders, shifting cultivators, fishermen, estate workers, residents of New Villages, agricultural labourers by:
 - (i) expanding employment opportunities through new land development, establishment of new growth centres and the absorption of excess labour...
 - (ii) enhancing the productive role of the rural poor by increasing their access to land, water supplies, credit, markets, extension advice and other public facilities...
- (2) To reduce the incidence of poverty among the urban poor by:
 - (i) expanding employment opportunities in manufacturing and construction including the promotion of small-scale industries...
 - (ii) improving their real income through the provision of low-cost housing and other public services...
 - (3) To enhance the quality of life of all Malaysians and in particular the poor through the expansion of education health services, family planning facilities and housing...
 - (4) To increase the share of the Malays and other indigenous people in employment in mining, manufacturing and construction and the share of other Malaysians in agriculture and services...
 - (5) To raise the share of the Malays and other indigenous people in the ownership of productive wealth including land, fixed assets and equity capital...
 - (6) To foster the development of entrepreneurship among the Malays and other indigenous people so as to effectively contribute towards the creation by 1990 of a strong and viable commercial and industrial community among them...
 - (7) To encourage and support private investment both domestic and foreign...
 - (8) To promote further utilization of the country's abundant human and natural resources; and
 - (9) To develop and expand the social and physical infrastructure of the economy to effectively support the attainment of the above objectives.

The Board is particularly concerned in:—

- (a) increasing natural rubber production through the improvement of propagation and agricultural techniques
- (b) modernising processing, grading and presentation of the Malaysian produce for the market
- (c) expanding the international market for the product and its competitiveness by improving its technical performance
- (d) providing a technical service to rubber manufacturers and industrial users to maximise effective utilisation
- (e) developing new and improved applications for the rubber products manufacturing industries
- (f) In recent years the MRRDB has been charged to give impetus to an additional task of major importance—to do all in its power through its research and development facilities to aid the development of a home-based rubber products manufacturing industry in Malaysia.

MRRDB maintains a continuous technical dialogue with users through its Malaysian Rubber Bureau offices in rubber manufacturing centres around the world which operate a multi-lingual Technical Advisory Service linked to and supported by the two Laboratories.

Malaysian rubber, naturally

Rubber: resilient demand may raise prices

Long recovery of rubber in response to demand from countries moving recession, has given a boost to the economy. It is because the rubber industry is Malaysia's employer and source of income. More than 100,000 people work on rubber plantations or on big estates.

Malaysia's 1,620,000 tonnes of rubber earned \$3,098m worth of foreign exchange in 1976. In terms of both revenue and volume, rubber has been a record; rubber exports represented 10 per cent of Malaysia's export earnings in 1976.

Analysts say that oil will replace rubber as a top export but rubber, grown in smallholdings or in close to villages, is still predominantly giving employment to the rural population.

However, the stockpile of rubber has not been put into practice as the rubber price has remained good. In fact, the ANRPC has been telling members to produce more rubber to meet demand, which has overtaken the supply.

One big challenge facing the rubber industry in Malaysia is that despite the price rises and booming exports, the benefits have yet to filter down to thousands of smallholders and labourers who tap the milky latex that comes out every morning from the rubber tree.

The Government has accepted this challenge under the third five-year plan, which provides for introduction of new technology for the smallholders and improved marketing.

The Government will spend \$670m (£158m) for replanting on 600,000 acres with high-yield trees—four times more than the previous plan, which ended last year.

The Rubber Industry Development Board (RIDB), responsible for managing the replanting grants, will also open 1,200 smallholders' development centres to serve the needs of this sector of the industry.

Both RISDA and MAR-DEC (Malaysian Rubber Development Corporation), another government agency, are engaged in promotion of markets for smallholders' rubber at the risk of duplicating their functions.

Authorities like the Malaysian Rubber Research and Development Board (MRDRB) have developed better quality Malaysian rubber and the programme has been copied by other natural rubber producing countries. Work on tyre rubber, started in 1971, has proved successful, so that the Rubber Research Institute is building a factory to produce it on a large scale.

The authorities have also placed emphasis on promoting rubber-based industries to produce manufactured rubber goods for export. The Government's target is to increase the amount of rubber goods manufactured from 30,000 tonnes at present to 300,000 tonnes by 1990.

The Malaysian Rubber Exchange and Licensing Board (MRELB), which started operating independently from Singapore in 1973, has won over several countries, including rubber purchasing corporations from Eastern Europe.



A churn of latex being transported to the factory.

Palm oil: first moves to keep competitive edge

The palm oil industry expects a good year because of a sharp rise in world prices. Malaysian palm oil in Europe and the United States averaged 65 per cent higher in the first half of this year compared with the corresponding period last year.

The average cif price for the commodity for the first six months of this year was \$US579.6 a tonne in Europe and \$575.5 in the United States. Producers forecast that prices will stabilise at about \$550 a tonne in the remainder of this year.

With palm oil and palm kernel oil production projected at 1,913,000 tonnes, the export total this year is expected to surpass the 1,460,000 tonnes sold abroad last year for \$317m at a much lower export price a tonne.

In 1976 total export earnings from palm oil and palm kernel oil declined from 15.5 per cent of total exports to 9.9 per cent, making palm oil Malaysia's fifth largest foreign exchange earner after rubber, petroleum, tin and timber, after being second only to rubber in 1975.

The shortfall in export earnings from palm oil last year, solely caused by lower prices, was regarded as a temporary setback by the Malaysian Government, which remains committed to a long-term programme of dynamic, but orderly, development of the commodity.

The Government plans to set up the palm oil registration and licensing authority (Poria) in about three months.

Poria will be an all-embracing organisation for the palm oil industry, filling the same role as the Malaysian Rubber Development Board and the Malaysian Rubber Export Licensing Board do in the rubber industry.

Poria might not be a cure for all the ills of the palm oil industry but the Government and producers regard its formation as a step in the right direction. It is expected to give the necessary boost to maintain palm oil's status as one of Malaysia's leading primary commodities.

Producers say Poria should also provide a much-needed impetus for more research and discovery of better production and processing techniques, as well as new uses to make the palm oil more competitive as an alternative to other edible oils.

At present research work, and even specification of what constitutes "refined" palm oil, is left to private companies.

In the 1920s and 1930s rubber transformed the economy of Malaya. But in the 1960s, when synthetic rubber made inroads into production of natural rubber and depressed natural rubber prices, the Malaysian Government felt it imperative to diversify, and strengthen, the economy with palm oil production.

In 1960, cultivation of oil palm started on 130,000 acres, but now the crop is grown on 1,500,000 acres, and the acreage under oil palm is likely to reach 1,900,000 in 1980.

Oil palm has proved to be the most suitable substitute for rubber, particularly in the east Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, where labour is in short supply. Sabah has more than 140,000 acres under oil palm while



Harvesting palms for one of the country's leading primary commodities.

In Sarawak the crop is planted on 40,000 acres. In peninsular Malaysia, the continuing conversion of rubber land to palm oil by both estates and smallholders has been an important factor accounting for the increased area under oil palm.

Oil palm is basically an estate crop, but thousands of individual families are earning a good income from it because of the land settlement schemes of the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda). About 40,000 settlers and their families are dependent for their livelihoods on Felda's oil palm schemes.

Like the private rubber estates, Felda began to switch from rubber to oil palm in the 1960s. Today Felda is the largest palm oil producer in the country, with 505,450 acres or about 30 per cent of the total planted area.

The authority is also the world's biggest single producer of palm oil. Its output in 1976 totalled 243,700 tonnes and almost all of this tonnage was exported.

Felda expects that its production will reach 500,000 tonnes by 1980 when new oil palm schemes come into production and existing ones reach their peak yield.

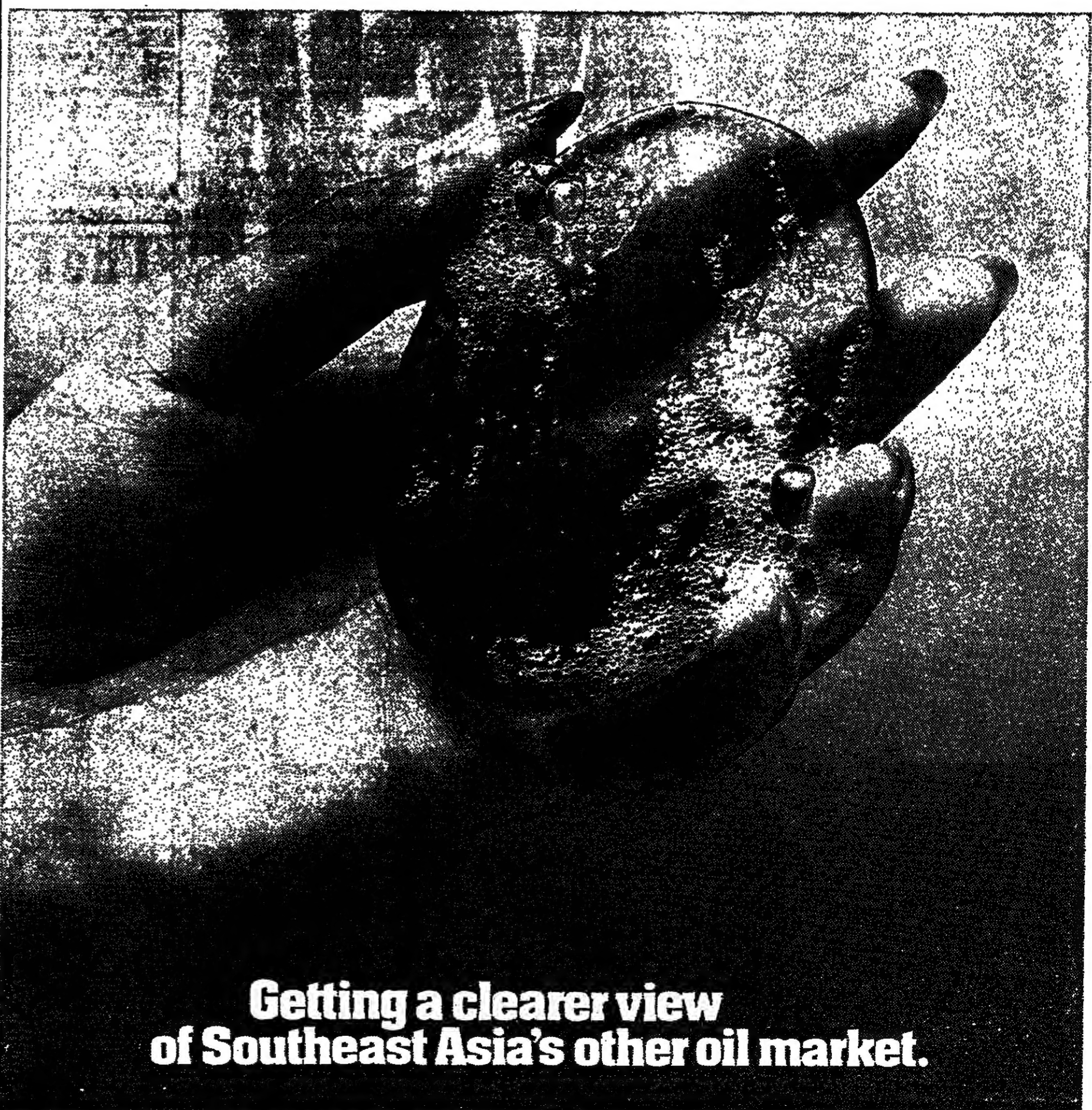
With production of palm oil and rubber reaching such a scale, Felda decided to set up its own marketing authority, Felma, in 1974, and sold about \$M350m worth of palm oil and rubber abroad last year.

Felda has its critics, despite its success in giving a livelihood to thousands of impoverished, landless people. For one thing, they say its costs are about 30 per cent higher than those usually incurred by private companies in such land schemes. Another criticism is that only the majority Malay race have benefited from it and minority Chinese and Indians have been left out.

Despite recovery of the palm oil price in response to demand, producers express concern over the decline in sales to the United States. They are unhappy over the campaign by the soybean industry against palm oil.

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Oil gets benefit of tough negotiations

by Roger Vielvoye

Malaysia's small offshore oil industry is once again expanding after two years in the doldrums. Petronas, the state oil company, Shell and Exxon have conducted some of the toughest negotiations the oil industry has seen for many years over the terms under which the companies should operate their commercial oil discoveries.

By last autumn both sides were deadlocked and appeared to be heading for a serious confrontation. It took the personal intervention of Datuk Hussein bin Onn and the departure of Tunku Razaleigh Hamzah, the Minister of Finance, from his secondary post as chairman of Petronas, a compromise offer from the government side, and a state-imposed deadline for completing the negotiations to produce agreements with Shell and Exxon in December.

For once the negotiations involved more than just tough talking and hollow threats by the international oil companies, as has often happened in the past. Exxon gave warning that it could not continue to operate in the bitter atmosphere engendered by the negotiations and then surprised other oil companies by suspending development work on a new field off the state of Trengganu.

The company ordered that two completed steel production platforms built for the field should be left in the Japanese construction yard until agreement on terms could be reached.

The big oil groups had been upset by the Petronas demand for production-sharing contracts with terms equal to those in force in Indonesia, generally considered to be extremely favour-

able to the Government. According to some industry observers, a number of the big oil groups were afraid that if they could not wring concessions from a non-Opec member still needing the skills and knowledge of foreign oil companies to continue the search for further oil reserves, then the credibility of the industry in future dealings with other emerging oil states would be seriously impaired.

As well as suspending its development operations, Exxon also pointed out that the Petronas hard-line on production-sharing agreements might rebound in other sectors of the economy where foreign investors could be frightened away by the prospect of the spread of tougher attitudes on state participation.

They were also able to argue that lack of an agreement could damage the prospects for a big liquid natural gas development off Sarawak, for which the Malaysia International Shipping Corporation has already ordered five liquid natural gas tankers, the first of which is scheduled for delivery in 1979.

Petronas had its own threats to deliver. Exxon and Shell were told that 15 other oil companies were lined up to replace them should the negotiations fail to produce an agreement on the state's terms. And it would be the newcomers to the scene who would compensate the two companies for the loss of their Malaysian production facilities.

Critics of the softer line taken by the Prime Minister claim that with production at about 175,000 barrels a day fetching \$12.72 a barrel, Petronas is now receiving more than \$100m a year less than it would have acquired from its original production-sharing proposals. The loss to the state company would rise to nearly \$120m a year

once output reaches 200,000 barrels a day, probably later this year.

Under the agreement signed in December 10 per cent of production is shared equally between the federal and state governments with a further 20 per cent retained by the oil companies to cover their development and running costs. The remaining 70 per cent is split 70:30 between Petronas and the companies which, after tax, gives the state an 83.5:16.5 split.

Having run into difficulties and been forced to climb down in the negotiations with Exxon and Shell, Petronas is again pursuing a hard line in an attempt to persuade another American company, Continental Oil, to sign a similar production-sharing agreement.

It is resisting the suggestion that terms good enough for Shell and Exxon should be good enough for Conoco and its partners, Australian Steel and oil producer BHP and El Paso, an American-based company with considerable experience in the natural gas business. Conoco claims that the three fields found off the east coast of the Malay peninsula are more marginal than the larger Shell and Exxon finds and that the production-sharing agreement should be tailored accordingly.

When the negotiations started in February the Conoco consortium asked for a final split of 60:40 in the Government's favour, which has subsequently been modified to a 75:25 ratio. Throughout the negotiations Petronas has stuck to the 83.5:16.5 formula and industry sources do not expect any concessions to be made. Talks between two sides have been extremely spasmodic during the summer and it may be some time before an agreement is reached. For the other companies



Datuk Hussein bin Onn, the Prime Minister, who intervened personally to resolve a dispute over the oil franchise.

considering exploration in Malaysian waters, the outcome of the deal with Conoco is crucial. It is generally accepted that Shell and Exxon have found the most prolific oil-bearing structures and that new discoveries will be akin to the smaller reservoirs uncovered by the Conoco consortium.

Although there had been agreement with Shell on production sharing, this was not the prelude to expected early approvals for the Bintulu liquid natural gas scheme in Sarawak, costing more than £1,000m. Sensitive talks are still in progress over the form that a joint venture to exploit and market the gas should take.

There is also uncertainty over plans by Petronas in marketing. The controversial proposal in the Petroleum Development (Amendment) Act, which would have enabled the Government to acquire control of Shell and Exxon's refining operations by the creation of management shares in the companies held by Petronas, is no longer a runner.

Petronas still wants a share in the downstream end of the oil business but it is now accepted that this will not come through arbitrary measures like management shares.

The author is Energy Correspondent, The Times.

The new language of education

by Adibah Amin

Changing the language medium of a nation's education system is a mammoth task. Anxiety is unavoidable on two points: how competent the new medium is, and how competent the students are in it.

These are the two points Malaysia's education and language authorities have continually to bear in mind in effecting the change from English to Bahasa Malaysia (modern Malay) as the main medium of instruction.

In the period of British rule, which ended only two decades ago, getting educated beyond primary level almost always meant going to an English-medium school, an English-medium college, an English-medium university.

Primary schools were available in four language mediums: English, Malay, Chinese, Tamil, the four major languages of this plural society. Chinese secondary schools there were, leading to universities in China and Singapore, but an education in Chinese did not offer quite the employment opportunities and social standing that an education in English did.

Education in Tamil stopped at primary level. So did education in Malay, except for two colleges for training primary school teachers. Besides being the official language, English was the academic language, and became very much the everyday language of those educated in it.

The people who planned and worked for Malaysia's independence came to an agreement that Malay should slowly replace English in these capacities. More, it should be a national language, understood and used by all.

This decision was primarily political. It happened, too, that Malay was the language already understood and spoken by the largest number of people in Malaysia. But as a language of learning, particularly in the sciences, it lacked the body of terms necessary for academic instruction, for instance in chemistry from Reading and Salford universities. In the positions of the

other languages, the people were to be free to go on using and studying them.

English, while gradually relinquishing its dominant role, would remain a useful second language, particularly in education and international communication.

In the education system, all this has expressed itself in certain provisions. Bahasa Malaysia and English are taught in all schools. A pass in Bahasa Malaysia is required for obtaining the Lower Certificate of Education at form five.

English to be phased out by 1983

Secondary and tertiary education in Bahasa Malaysia have been established. All schools follow a common syllabus and sit for common examinations.

English-medium schools are being changed to Bahasa-medium, beginning in 1970 with standard one in primary school and proceeding upwards at the rate of one class a year.

In 1980 all schools except Chinese and Tamil primary ones, of which there are not many, will be Bahasa-medium. In 1983 all colleges and universities will be Bahasa-medium in the first year, and so on, moving one step up each year until all tertiary education is in the new language medium.

How competent is Bahasa Malaysia to cope with this? In 1955 when it was first called upon to be a language medium for secondary education, it had severe shortcomings.

As a language of everyday conversation and of literary expression, it was highly developed, with a vocabulary enriched by borrowings over centuries from Sanskrit, Arabic, Tamil, Chinese, Portuguese, Dutch and English, and a delicacy of shade and nuance born of imaginative use by writers traditional and modern.

But as a language of learning, particularly in the sciences, it lacked the body of terms necessary for academic instruction, for instance in chemistry from Reading and Salford universities. In the positions of the

in the language, by adopting and adapting foreign words, and by coining.

Spurred by immediate need, the committees produced terms by the yard for use in teaching and the writing of textbooks. But as the different organizations concerned with education and language had their own committees, different sets of terminology were produced.

To add to the merry confusion, some teachers and textbook writers concocted their own terms when they could not find these fast enough in the terminology sets. It must be confessed that a number of terms which found their way into textbooks, from expert as well as semi-expert and non-expert sources, were howlers.

Yet somehow, correcting and coordinating as they went along, the word-makers managed to give Bahasa Malaysia a vocabulary that was wide, precise and consistent enough to communicate knowledge efficiently at university level.

The first Bahasa-medium university, the National University, was set up seven years ago. Lectures and tutorials are in Bahasa Malaysia, as are assignments and examinations. English books are extensively used for reference. ESP (English for Special Purposes) courses being provided to help students in this.

A heartening degree of success

Considering that a high standard is maintained and checked through external examinations from reputable universities in Britain and other countries, the degree of success achieved by the university's students is heartening. Many of its graduates too have been accepted into universities in Britain, Australia, the United States, France and Iran to do post-graduate courses in economics, mathematics, geography, geology, physics, chemistry, library science, Islamic law.

Several have already returned with masters' degrees. Doctorates too have been obtained, for instance in chemistry from Reading and Salford universities. In Britain, and in mathematics

from La Trobe University, Australia.

This and the performance of Bahasa-medium graduates in various jobs have minds at rest about the ability of Bahasa Malaysia as an academic instrument. There are still weaknesses and complacency would be disastrous. But after first desperate decades, to use a favourite expression among government circles, was under control.

Less reassuring is answer to the question: competent are student the use of Bahasa Malaysia. Even allowing for almost worldwide decline in language performance, a general standard of Bahasa among Malaysian students is disquieting.

In the universities it is uncommon to find a solid and even brilliant student who cannot write in a reasonably good Malay.

Examiners of Bahasa papers in Malaysia Certificate of Education and the Higher S Certificate (Malaysia's A levels) are shocked each year at the paucity of vocabulary, wordiness, repetition and plain bad grammar so prevalent in scripts they mark.

One reason is lack of training in Bahasa Malaysia at the part of students. Another is acute shortage of teachers qualified to teach the language. A third is the syllabus which, though improved from the time was all prefixes, suffixes, and traditional forms, still places much emphasis on learning to learn to use language.

In the change from English to Bahasa Malaysia as medium of instruction, the expected drop in the command of English has without a compensating improvement in the command of Bahasa.

Such a rise would, anyway, be commendable enough. The education authorities are increasingly aware that Malaysia cannot afford to neglect either language. The perfecting of a proficient simultaneous attack on the teaching of both languages.

The author is a columnist, New Straits Times, Lumpur.

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language of
education

Staging a search for roots

by Krishen Jit

desperate search for roots in the theatre in Malaysia. The traditional theatre practitioners, scholars or cultural workers are endeavouring to discover the long-neglected forms of performance and to protect them from extinction or loss.

In contemporary drama, they carry a heavy burden that should be shouldered by modernists. They are in no less a task to infuse a local character into a largely imported modern drama.

The experience of other Asian theatres that the path is not a smooth one. They are relative newcomers, Malaysians can learn from the other Asian theatres. But under South-east Asian eyes, Malaysia has a role in rescuing its treasures, particularly the performing arts.

If local theatre is not immune from the shape and the shape of modern Malaysia. The first radiating from the drama modern, a sign of the imported which held sway for years, began only with the opening of the

the attention of a theatre-going audience from the theatre since 1957, is upon the "contemporary" drama. Modern, or sandi, never been devoid of personal or political content, try to become of the Western techniques, the drama playwrights easily shed their garb.

they thought they were like realists of social conscience early writers slipped in traditional stereotypes. Included clown or example, she is and resilient in traditional

berately, by raising a sphere of contemporary drama in the 1960s breed of led by Mustapha

pha Kamal Yassin and Osman Awang, provoked empathy from their socially-conscious audiences. If the air in drama modern was thick with didacticism, it was intended to arouse the audiences to positive social action.

Thus, confrontation between values (conservative and progressive), generations (old and young), and occasionally race (Malay and Chinese) was often the dramatic event eliciting trenchant commentary on post-independence Malaysia. The aura of romanticism which pervaded these plays suggests the dramatists' bright hopes for their country's future.

In spite of the period of British rule, playwrights writing in Malay, with but few exceptions, learned modern dramatic techniques through the Indonesian *Sandiwara*.

Transfer was made with ease

A common language and culture explains the ease with which the transfer was made. Significantly, too, the departure of the British and Dutch colonisers from the region reopened the once-busy gates of cultural exchange and borrowing which had earlier characterized the two ASEAN countries.

That contemporary Malaysian theatre owes something to Indonesia should not, therefore, be surprising. Compared with the earlier local, however, the current one is much smaller. In fact, the best of the innovative playwrights work independently of theatre developments in Indonesia.

Only the younger and less mature set of writers, the heirs of the previous tradition of borrowing, monitor Indonesian dramatic trends and attempt to transplant them into Malaysia.

Like their predecessors, these playwrights suffer from a time-lag between the introduction of a dramatic style in Jakarta and its subsequent appearance in the form of their dramas revealed a literary texture. Their theatre remained amateurish because they lacked meaningful private or institutional patronage apart from their select audience.

In conscious revolt, the contemporary theatre people

talk of breaking down the walls of the stage and democratizing their audience. Alas, as soon as they tried a more intimate and spontaneous communion by staging plays in the round or in open spaces, they discovered that such was precisely the kind of kinship nurtured by their traditional theatres.

The appeal to different audience tastes and sensibilities also judges them closer to the soul of traditional performance. Drama modern might have excited the minds of their special audience with their dialogue-based plays. By harnessing the energy of song, dance, mime and poetry, the recent experimental theatre affords a multiplicity of sensations for the many to enjoy.

Similar efforts to acquire higher and more diverse audiences have also been launched by contemporary Indonesian theatre. The living tradition of commercialized, popular theatre has been the carrier by which the playwrights to entice the common people to their once-elitist stages. Less fortunate—because their popular theatre forum, *Bangsawan*, is a pale reflection of the former glory—ch Malaysian theatre egallarians are understandably in the vanguard of the campaign to revive the rumbustious and gaudy theatre.

First ground for a contemporary Malaysian theatre was broken by a playwright working in the Sultan Idris teachers' training college about 50 miles north of Kuala Lumpur.

With *Bukan Lalang Ditiup Angin* ("It is not the mere rustling of the wind"), and later with *Tiang Sri Tegak Berlima* ("The five strong pillars"), Noordin Hassan assumed a demonstrably rebellious stance towards drama modern.

Not unreasonably, many of those who saw *Bukan Lalang Ditiup Angin* at the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Auditorium in 1970 were confused, if not hostile. The pictures were pleasing, but the surrealistic rhythm of the play bewildered the audience. The music by Basil Jayatilaka was charming, even lyrical, but what did it all mean?

On further reflection, it dawned upon drama critics that the mercurial episodes of the play were poetic allegories designed to expose the ironic ambiguities of contemporary Malaysian life.



A scene from a musical drama by Noordin Hassan.

Theoretically, the most powerful scene in the play was the entrance of the deformed and handicapped person, come to seek solace from the gorgeous Mekong. The procession of the lame, blind, deaf and dumb—drumming the *gendang* and chanting the *Dikir Barat*—assaulted the senses.

This was no prostitution of a traditional performing style for the sake of sensationalism, but an original and honest discovery of its dramatic potential for a modern Malaysian theatre.

Noordin Hassan excels in this area. He has demonstrated that the indigenous expressive arts, when used with integrity and imagination, can illuminate the complexities of modern Malaysian society. He uses Malay verse forms, improvised song and dance, religious chanting, pageants, and processions and broad and raucous comedy of the popular theatre genre.

Training as an artist, the author is drama critic, *New Sunday Times*, Kuala Lumpur.

What's what about who's who

by Adibah Amin

The profusion and complexity of Malaysian titles where the hostess can make could drive the uninitiated to distraction. The rule is to take nothing for granted. Malaysia is made up of 13 states, of which nine have royal rulers or Sultans. Someone with the title Raja from the southern state of Johore may be only a member of the minor aristocracy, but in the northern state of Perak a Raja is likely to be very close to the throne.

The title *Syed* before a man's name (Sharifah for a woman) indicates descent from the Prophet Muhammad and normally has no aristocratic significance. But a *Syed* from Perlis, Malaysia's northernmost state, may well be a member of the royal family.

When someone is a *Teungkut* or *Tunku*, the chances are that his blood is very blue indeed, or very white, as the Malays would put it, unless, that is, he comes from Perak where a Raja is usually higher in the hierarchy.

Position in the social hierarchy depends mainly on one's status in the throne. Hereditary titles are passed down the male line, but kinship is counted from the female side as well.

When a princess marries a commoner, in some states the title goes to the wife. Megat and their daughters *Puteri*, while in others the children are called *Wan*. However, not all these titles originate in this way.

Someone should do research on the history and social significance of these titles and of others like *Ungku*, *Pangeran*, *Nik*, *Tuan* and the numerous state hereditary titles.

The conferred honours are easier to learn as there are only about 150 of them and they are arranged in a clear hierarchy. The aspiring hostess should make friends with the protocol people and swot up the hierarchy.

Some hostesses get by on just the federal list in which there are only 24 awards. Top of the list is *Seri Paduka Mahkota Perangsang* (SPMP) for exceptional bravery and self-sacrifice. But the hostess need not worry about this, as it carries no title before the person's name and anyway the holder is not likely to be twinking in the social galaxy.

Neither need she worry about the two just below, because *DKM* is awarded only to people like foreign princes and heads of state.

The wife of a Daruk, hereditary or conferred, is called *Datin*. But other hereditary titles carry no corresponding titles for the wives.

A *Tun*'s wife is *Toh Puan*, a *Tan Sri*'s wife *Puan Sri*. Any of the titles can be conferred on a woman as well as a man, and have been. The husband gets no title.

The women are quite happy about this, but the men have been heard to ask plaintively: "Why can't a female *Tan Sri*'s husband be a *Puan Sri*?"

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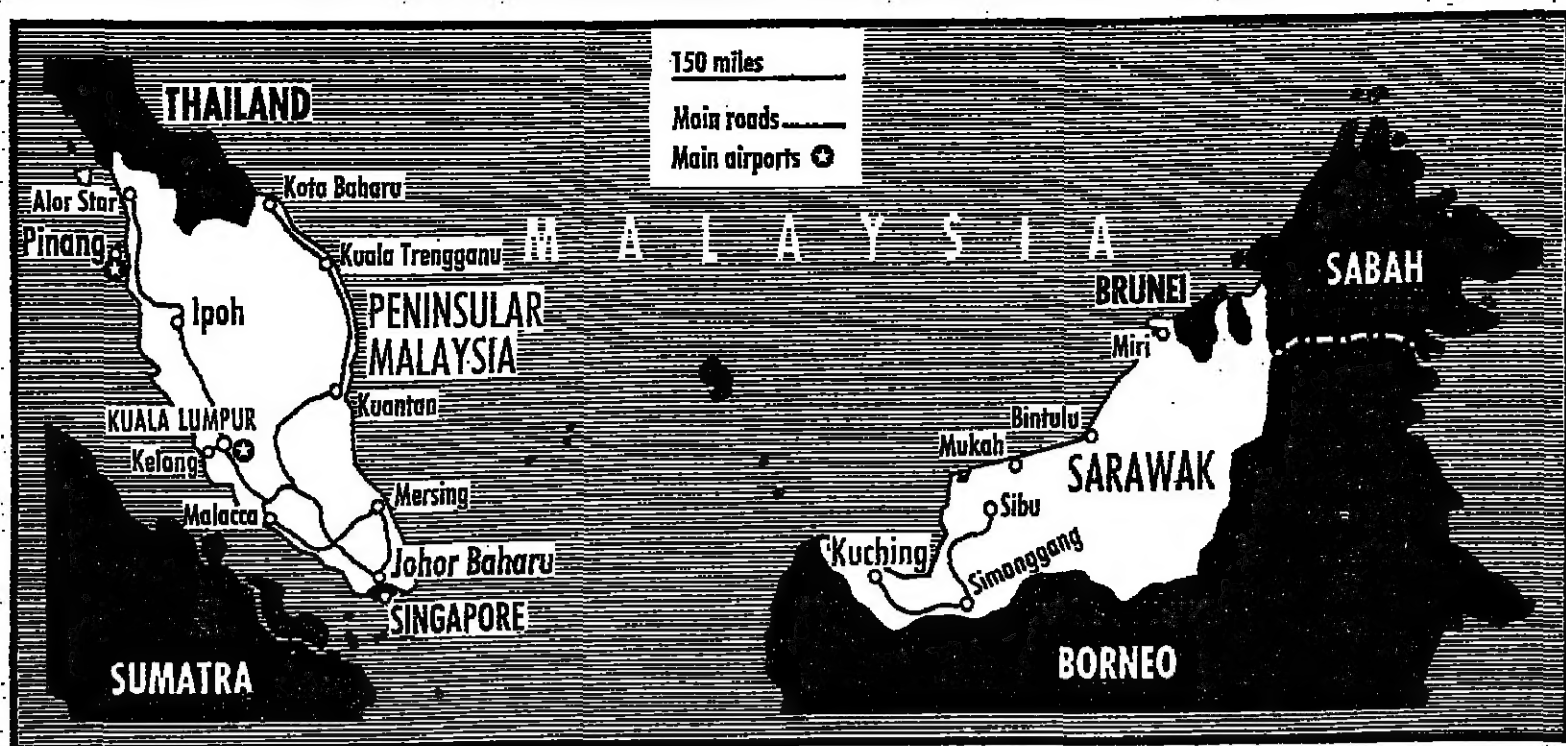
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Communist threat lingers on

by K. Das

As Malaysia celebrates 20 years of independence, there is a disquieting awareness in the country that freedom from British rule in 1957 did not mean freedom from the nagging irritation by the Communist Party of Malaysia (MCP), which backs its claim to be fighting for freedom by killing occasional policemen, laying booby traps in the jungles and planting communist flags in urban areas on its own rather obscure anniversaries.

A force of some 15,000 armed men in 1952 had been reduced to a wandering band of 600 men by 1960, pursued and hunted by Malaysian and Commonwealth forces, and driven out of the peninsula into the jungles of bordering Thailand.

In 1968, the party launched its so-called seven-year plan to take over the country by 1975. The party's strength stood then at about 950 men, according to government estimates. Police intelligence also had what is known as chartered figures, that is exact knowledge of who the men were, where they operated, their backgrounds and in many cases photographs. The chartered figure was about 703. By 1975, the end of the seven-year plan period, the MCP had an estimated membership of 2,000 men, but were nowhere near taking over the country. By this year the figure was further swelled, and estimates put it at 3,000 armed men. The chartered

strength by June, 1977, however, was only 2,057.

Even more satisfying for the Government, the communists who fled across the border and are forced to recruit Thais into the so-called Malaysian Communist Party, constantly disagreed on the best strategy to adopt in their "revolutionary war", and in 1970 split irrevocably into three factions.

The split, long dismissed as government propaganda by most cynics, was confirmed with elaborate explanations only on July 5 by no less an authority than the clandestine radio, Suara Revolusi Malaya, or the Voice of Malaya Revolution, based in Yunnan in China.

The radio, a long-time irritant to Malaysia, and a subject of discussion before Malaysia finally established relations with China, launched a vicious attack on the main breakaway group of the MCP, the so-called Marxist-Leninist faction. In 1975, in a spate of urban guerrilla activity, the communists blew up a national war monument, fired mortar shells into the air force base outside the federal capital, lobbed grenades into the Police Field Force headquarters in Kuala Lumpur (killing two constables and wounding 41), and finished their grim work for the year by killing the chief police officer of Perak state, in the heart of Ipoh town.

During the year they also managed to kill more than a dozen special branch officers up and down the country. It was only when the terror campaign was at its height that the police machinery moved into top gear. More important, a diplomatic offensive began to get the total commitment of the Thai Government to flush out the communists who had begun their attack from the safety of sanctuaries in Thailand.

The police offensive and army manoeuvres were immediately successful in that they moved the most militant of the MCP back into the Thai jungles, and proof of success was that not a single incident took place last year or this involving police or army units. The only attacks were on civilians and there were a few casualties. But the Government was more concerned now to get the Thai Government to help to clean up the border.

Under the military government of Thailand, and later under the Government of Kuriit Pramot and even under the rule of Seni Pramot, there was only elaborate discussion and nit-picking as Bangkok prevaricated and made polite noises. The MCP in mid-1976, watching the ineffectual border operation, pulled its most magnificent coup. It staged a demonstration in Bangkok town against the stationing of Malaysian troops in Thailand.

The 400 Police Field Force troops in Bangkok were there under the border agreement largely to provide an umbrella for Malaysian intelligence men seeking to identify MCP members and supporters from Malaysia and to assist the Thai police and army. But when the Bangkok demonstrations were launched, Seni Pramot in Bangkok was so besieged by the new democratic Parliament's supporters of the demonstrations, that he gave way and demanded that Malaysian troops be withdrawn.

Kuala Lumpur was almost in a state of panic, because with the Police Field Force gone, Bangkok would go communist almost in the same way as border towns on the South Vietnam borders went communist, and creeping communism was inevitable.

The diplomatic offensive from Kuala Lumpur was hardly making headway when the Seni Pramot Government fell and gave way to the Government of Thania Kraivichien and the new generals, and an anti-communist mood in Bangkok set in which brought almost a revolution in thinking about the MCP. The border agreement was revitalized and Malaysian troops are now permitted to go almost anywhere and for any length of time.

The first full-scale joint border operation, code-named Big Star One, was launched in January this

year. In April came Big Star Two. In brigade strength Malaysian and Thai troops swept through the Sadao area of Yala province in southern Thailand and totally dislodged a Revolutionary Faction force of some 250 men, capturing supplies and logistics material that will take a decade to replace.

On July 4 Operation Sacred Ray One was launched in Betong itself and three days later Sacred Ray Two began in the Weng salient to the east, just across the Kelantan state border, this time with three Malaysian brigades and an undisclosed number of Thai troops. Again the "kills" were few and far between but supplies of food and medicine and war material that took years to assemble were captured.

Since the end of 1975 the communists have not made any attempt to advance. The job, as seen by Malaysian army and police, with the help of Thailand, is to harass, attack and pursue.

While the army and police are on the move the Malaysian Government is fully preoccupied with the task of social and economic advancement, the only long-term cure for the growth of communism.

Secession now seen as a non-starter

by Hugh Mabbett

Ever since East Pakistan broke away to form Bangladesh, the phrase "East Malaysia" to describe Sarawak and Sabah has been officially frowned upon, lest its use gives rise to similar ideas. But the prospect of secession has diminished now almost to the level of myth and might-have-been.

A cynical reason for believing that the two states will never break away is that Indonesia would absorb them if they did. But long before that the attempt would probably have failed because the armed forces, the police and the courts are all federal organizations which could be used if tolerance of Malaysia should wane.

A better explanation now, however, is that there is no fundamental pressure for change. In both states elected governments fall over themselves to declare their enthusiasm for Malaysia. In any event, politicians are not really popular and many people prefer to keep their rulers at a distance; home rule would not necessarily be better.

Within the past decade only Tun Mustapha bin Daru Harun, the former Sabah Chief Minister, has defied Kuala Lumpur with the main result that he has been reduced from enormous power to an ineffective opposition role.

In 1975 when the combined pressures of a timber export slump and adverse Treasury decisions in Kuala Lumpur hit Sabah's ill-managed finances hard, Tun Mustapha circulated within his party a short unduly paper entitled, *The Future Position of Sabah in Malaysia*.

His intention may have been more blackmail than secession but even if a break-away move is discounted a large threat to Malaysian stability remained. Tun Mustapha had spent a lot of money wooing supporters in Kuala Lumpur, and the prospect was that he would add Sabah's 12 members of Parliament to those of the Islamic Party, that some dissident UMNO MPs would have joined in and that UMNO would have come under powerful all-Bumiputera challenge.

Tun Razak, the Prime Minister at the time, decided against direct action. Instead he lent his blessings to a new party, Berjaya (Success), which would challenge

Tun Mustapha's party at the next state elections.

The play succeeded, Berjaya won and Tun Fuad Stephens, its leader, became Sabah's Chief Minister—only to die in an aircraft crash less than two months later, in June last year. Datuk Harris Salleh, his deputy, took over.

Later his party forced Tun Mustapha to resign as leader but recently, apparently in need of both his appeal and his reputed money, it invited him back. His return has caused some trepidation in Kuala Lumpur and among his opponents in Sabah but this appears to have little basis.

His fall showed him not to be all powerful; many young people in his party resent him for the disaster his extravagance brought upon it, he is not getting the sympathy he expected from old allies in Kuala Lumpur and he may even, despite his huge income for many years from timber concessions, be short of money.

Revived economy strengthens government hand

Meanwhile, Datuk Harris, the present Chief Minister, has been fortunate. Timber prices have recovered so the state's economy is buoyant once more, his party has withdrawn the strains inevitable in such a young organization coming so rapidly to power and the change in Kuala Lumpur from Tun Razak to Datuk Hussein Onn, the present Prime Minister, seems to suit his style.

All this makes a good platform from which his Government can tackle some major problems—especially deciding what can be done about 90,000 (some say more than 100,000) mainly Muslim recent migrants from the southern Philippines. They are often described as refugees from fighting there but there is no doubt that most were not so much escaping from war as looking for a chance to gain from Malaysia's higher living standards.

Tun Mustapha permitted the influx, supposedly in the belief that more Muslims would strengthen his hold in a state with a Muslim minority. Now every coastal town has its ring of squatter

houses, its unemployed, its higher crime rate and its occasional cholera as a result.

There is talk of resettling the migrants on land schemes but few Sabahans relish the idea of money being spent on people they see as intruders. However, they are not likely to go home either and it would be as bad or worse to leave them as they are.

Another issue of pressing importance is the salvation of what remains of Sabah's forests, the source of astonishing wealth in the past decade.

In a recent interview Datuk Harris said that at present falling rates Sabah would run through its forests in 10 years or so. But concessions extending log exports will be curbed, processing for added value will be encouraged and by 1980 we will have the situation under tight control.

This will reduce timber revenue but earnings from oil will pick up. Tun Mustapha had refused to sign an agreement with Petronas, Malaysia's state oil corporation, giving it rights to oil in return for 5 per cent of production. Berjaya did and now Shell and Exxon are enlarging production from about 80,000 barrels a day on promising fields off Sabah's west coast.

Sabah accordingly presents as a picture as can be expected of a state with a new government, with an economy well behind that of peninsular Malaysia, with a racially and religiously divided population and with an unenviable position right on the fringe of the federation.

To fly south-west from Kota Kinabalu in Sabah to Kuching, the capital of Sarawak, is to enter a different political world, to leave behind the black and white of a new and successful party lording it over a demoralized opposition and to enter an arena of compromise and coalition.

Sabah's three main parties, one mainly Iban, one mainly Malay and Melanau and one mainly Chinese, though all with a good deal of overlapping, have joined to form a state version of the National Front formula which rules Malaysia.

The main effect of this has been to take the sharp edge off racial issues but the way

it is managed has mirrored the Malay-Melanau minority (the Muslims) a large Sarawak's affairs, the Ibans and Chinese enjoy. The larger the then is, how long will it take the other races to count this?

On the face of it Muslims are making easy for them. The outspoken opposition, Datuk Patinggi (a title) Tan Sri (a title) Abdul Rahman as Chief Minister from within the ranks, mostly from the Malays of the Ku region.

This is a dispute of some complexity. Datuk Rahman, one of Malaysia's most skillful politicians, has been able to control but it has given to a spate of conjecture about a new party formed to oppose him, the state and federal elections likely next year.

So, if the Muslims split, how can the other gain? In a phrase, he they are no more themselves. There is even a word, let alone party, for the non-Malay races, for last the Bidayus, Ibans, K and others must be mentioned though word "Dayak" in its neologistic sense of all native peoples may on serve.

The Chinese are divided, as elsewhere clan and dialect, and a class because Sarawak remains unwilling to small but persistent communist revolt, almost Chinese inspired manner.

Armed terrorists from Kuching and Rajang, their number more than 100. They not to draw help from countries but they down a large and expert force of soldiers and men who must count successes in one of "eliminations" at a

This little war poses basic difference between Sabah and Sarawak, has few really poor and no communist movement; Sarawak has sands of Chinese who live as farmers workers and who both class and resentments.

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